

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 23rd August, at Tokyo, the wife of JOHN TRUMBULL SWIFT, M.A., of a daughter.
On the 30th August, at Shanghai, the wife of J. H. HOWES, of a son.
On the 4th September, at the Peak, the wife of J. A. MACKAY, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 3rd September, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, HARRY GEORGE, second son of the late THOMAS ELLIS, M.D., of London, to MARY, third daughter of HUGH CALAGHAN, Esq., of Sydney, Australia.

DEATHS.

On the 22nd August, at Shanghai, MARY ST. GEORGE, aged 15 years.
On the 30th August, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, CHARLIE, youngest son of HENRY CHARLES and EMILY RUSSELL.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 5th August arrived per N. D. L. steamer *Preussen*, on the 3rd September (29 days); and the American mail of the 10th August arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *America Mura*, on the 7th September (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Belgian missionaries who were besieged by the Alashan Mongols have been delivered by the troops sent by the Taotai of Kweihsuacheng on the demand of the French Minister.

The formation of a native military leave depôt at Weihaiwei for invalids, under the command of Captain Quinn, has been sanctioned. Thirty Berkefield filters have been despatched thither from India.

In connection with the Whangpoo conservancy scheme at Shanghai, the area which it is proposed to reclaim is over 1,700 *mow*, or about 290 acres. It is suggested that an international park and recreation ground should be laid out on this reclamation.

For the information of those who have goods in bond, the N. C. *Daily News* is authorised to announce that the Peking Foreign Office states that bonded goods will pay the new effective five per cent. import duty when it comes into force, unless they are cleared before that date.

H.M.S. *Terrible* has returned to Weihaiwei from Shanhaikwan, and both Admiral Bridge and Admiral Bruce are now there, with six British warships. The Fleet regatta takes place at Weihaiwei early this month. H.M.S. *Terrible* may come to Hongkong about October.

It is stated in Peking, that the Court at Hsianfu intends to pick out certain officials possessing a knowledge of foreign languages and sciences for promotion, and to choose the best rules to be found in foreign and native codes of law for promoting friendly intercourse with foreign nations.

Quarantine is enforced by the Russian authorities against vessels arriving at Port Arthur, Talienwan, Vladivostok, or other Russian ports in the Far East, from or by way of Japanese, Chinese, or Korean ports. Such vessels are to be detained in quarantine for three days at their destination, unless they produce to the Russian officials on their arrival bills of health endorsed by the Russian Consul at the port of departure.

A Peking special despatch received in Shanghai on the 6th inst. stated that the Ministers had received the two remaining Edicts, the Chinese plenipotentiaries claiming that they had only just arrived. A special wire from the capital on the night of the 6th was to the effect that at a meeting of the Ministers, the Edicts were approved, and that the signature of all the copies would probably take place on Saturday. If Li Hung-chang was unable to be present at the signing of the Edicts, owing to sickness, he was to sign at home.

Japanese papers report that every provision to make Maizuru a military port will be ready towards the end of October next. The approaching completion of the harbour works at that port has made the naval authorities consider more than ever the necessity of speedily constructing a military railway, starting from Maizuru. The cost of the railway is estimated at about six million yen, and this sum the authorities believe they will be able to meet at the rate of one and a half million yen yearly, beginning from the fiscal year which commences in April next. Maizuru fronts Vladivostok, and part of the Russian Press affects to regard it as a menace to that port.

According to a Tokyo despatch, the Japanese supplementary claim from China has not been discussed by the conference of foreign ministers at Peking for some time. The Japanese Government will insist upon recognition of its lawful claim, and is confident the claim will be met in the right spirit by the foreign representatives.

It is said that H.E. Liu Kung-yi is thoroughly convinced of the necessity of immediate steps being taken to improve and conserve the Whangpoo and its approaches, nor has he any objection to the co-operation of foreigners in the work; but he insists very strongly that the sovereignty of China shall be respected and maintained.

A Hsian dispatch states that the recent action of H.E. T'ao Mu at Canton in removing from office some conservative and reactionary officials belonging to the Two Kuang provincial Governments, and his recommendation to the Throne to do the same in Peking, gave great anger to the Empress Dowager, who openly vowed vengeance in the Grand Council lately upon the Viceroy. The Grand Secretary, Wang Wen-shao, however, was luckily present and through his exhortations the Empress Dowager's wrath was appeased. No one else took Viceroy T'ao Mu's part.

The N. C. *Daily News* of the 29th ult. says:—It appears that the firm attitude of Sir E. Satow has borne some fruit at last. On the afternoon of the 25th inst., according to our native correspondent at Hangchow, Governor Jen Tao-Yung, in obedience to a Hsian decree, ordered to be brought before him Chou Chih-te, ex-Captain of the Chiuchou garrison, who was the principal leader of the riotous soldiery and mob of Chiuchou in the massacre of the unfortunate missionaries in that city and vicinity in July, last year. The Governor sat in the Grand Hall of his yamen, and after asking a few questions of the condemned ex-Captain, ordered him off to execution. The condemned was then led off to execution ground outside the Yungching gate of Hangchow, where his head was struck off under the supervision of Chung, prefect of the city. This act of justice should have been done some eight months ago.

On the 3rd inst. Prince Chun arrived at Potsdam from Basle, the German Emperor having abandoned his demand for a *kowtow* from the Prince's suite. On the next day, at the New Palace, Prince Chun was received by the Emperor, who remained seated on his throne. His Majesty beckoned Prince Chun to approach, and the latter, bowing thrice, then handed to His Majesty a letter of regrets from the Emperor of China. The Kaiser, in a stern speech, replied that he was willing to admit that the Emperor of China held aloof from the crimes that had been committed, but the guilt of his advisers was all the greater. He warned Prince Chun that the Chinese Government could not obtain pardon by a mere expiatory mission, but by its future attitude and conformity with the prescriptions of international law and civilisation. Prince Chun on retiring from the imperial presence again bowed thrice. A semi-official statement explains that it would be impossible for Germany to insist upon China begging forgiveness, as by so doing it would imply that the Chinese Government had abetted the murder of the German Minister, Baron von Ketteler.

QUESTIONS BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Daily Press, 31st August.)

Thursday's meeting of the Legislative Council was awaited, as we have already said, with no little interest, principally owing to the series of questions standing in the name of the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD. All of these involved subjects of importance to the general welfare of the Colony and its inhabitants. It cannot be said that the answers produced by the Government were for the most part of a nature calculated to satisfy those desirous to be informed. In one instance, that of question 4—when Mr. WHITEHEAD asked for a return of the number of building collapses since January, 1895, the owners' names, the number of deaths, enquiries, and prosecutions, the causes of the collapses, and the precautions to be taken in future—Mr. CHATHAM was unable to prepare an answer in time for the meeting, but promised all available information hereafter. The answers to the other questions may be glanced at briefly.

With regard to the New Territory, the first answer shows that the Land Court has had its hands full, and considering the size of the staff employed has used its time well. The answer as to expenditure on the Territory brings out only more strongly the unsatisfactory state of affairs to which we have frequently called attention before. So far from the anticipations of the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART in his report to Downing Street in 1898 having been fulfilled, we find an expenditure of \$736,571.34 against a revenue of \$41,014.82 for three years. And this is the New Territory in which no difficulty was expected in raising from the beginning an annual revenue large enough to meet the cost of administration! It is plain that a very large error has been made. The Chinese land-holders have been suffered to escape even provisional payment of rent, at the expense of Hongkong, and a source of revenue to the Government has hitherto been thrown away.

Mr. WHITEHEAD's third question dealt with the discontent in the police force and the Press comments thereon. Captain Superintendent MAY was certainly within his rights in refusing to take notice of complaints made in other than the usual way. Nevertheless the discontent, as Captain MAY knows well, most certainly exists and the police force has been much damaged and weakened by it. Because all complaints have not been made through the official channels it is not shown that the police are mostly contented. Coupled with what we know of the state of affairs in the force, it means something very different, as indeed we have already indicated when discussing this question previously.

The point in connection with the fifth and sixth questions is one of much importance to this Colony. Hongkong being outside the terms of the Venice Convention of 1897, it becomes legitimate to ask whether we should allow sick Chinese in times of epidemic to go home to the mainland with the consent of the Chinese Government. When the question was referred to His Majesty's Government this year, the result was a refusal to allow the suggested course to be taken. Nevertheless it is an undoubted fact that many Chinese in an early stage of the disease did get away from the Colony and some even have come back recovered, to our own knowledge; doubtless some of our readers have also come across such cases. We are unable at the present in Hongkong either to prevent the surreptitious departure of sick natives or to treat them when they remain adequately

to secure as good a percentage of recoveries as they show in their own homes. It is an open secret that certain very prominent officials are in sympathy with the proposal to allow the departure to the mainland of the sick Chinese, proper precautions being taken to avoid the spread of infection. In these circumstances, with the support of the community, our authorities would be justified in urging on the home Government a reconsideration of the decision given this year. It is certain that the real facts of the case are not appreciated in Downing Street.

The succession to Mr. ORMSBY's post at the head of the Public Works Department was the matter of Mr. WHITEHEAD's last question. It seems to us, and we know that this opinion is shared by many experts, that what the Public Works Department want is not so much a new and more highly paid head, but a larger and more adequate staff. It would be useless to import into the Colony a man of long experience and high standing, at a larger salary than has been paid before, and then to leave him as short-handed as his predecessors. We must spend our money on securing a sufficiently large staff before we get out an expensive Director to put at its head.

To one more point at Thursday's meeting we wish to call attention, and it is to be found in the remarks made by the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Mr. STEWART LOCKHART said with reference to the votes for Roads and Markets:—

"Hon. Members will be glad to see that provision is being made for the roads in Victoria. I am sure we all agree it is necessary that great attention should be paid to our roads, and to have them as satisfactory as possible. We all desire to see the roads in this Colony a credit to the Colony and to those who are in any way responsible for them."

And again:

"As Hon. Members are aware, a great deal has been said lately about the want of market accommodation in the Colony, and I feel sure the vote will be most heartily recommended."

We think that the Colonial Secretary must have smiled to himself as he made these remarks. We should certainly all of us "desire to see" creditable roads in the Colony and "most heartily recommend" a vote for two extra markets. We are also glad to learn that the Government shares (at last) our views.

A THREATENED DANGER FROM RUSSIA.

(Daily Press, 3rd September.)

When the Emperor NICHOLAS II ascended the throne of Russia, and married the daughter of the Princess ALICE, there were many who thought that the time had come when Russia would willingly enter the comity of the nations of Europe. Through evil report and good report his father ALEXANDER had carried on the efforts at reform begun by his father the Tsar ALEXANDER II. The task was an enormous one, and needed a fearless and powerful mind; ALEXANDER III, though perhaps not a clever sovereign, was a resolute man, and understood his people well. Though hated even more than his unfortunate father by the reactionaries and socialists, he won the confidence of the nation at large, and under his rule Russia made such enormous strides that, had his son and successor known how to follow in his footsteps, he would have found the road metalled, rolled and sanded. We have said "known how," not in any sense of disparagement; no more upright and conscientious monarch ever sat on the Throne of Russia,

and in nothing has the Tsar NICHOLAS more thoroughly fulfilled the expectations of his well-wishers than in his unfailing attention to the duties of his exalted station. Unfortunately, probably from some congenital defect as well as from the force of circumstances, his very virtues have been his worst enemies, and the Tsar NICHOLAS II must to be relegated to that unfortunate category of princes who have to bear the burden, not only of their own deficiencies, but of the crimes of those who have gone before. A friend of peace, a hater of wanton aggression, a lover of freedom, and a conscientious administrator of justice, he has by the tyranny of fate been made the agent for inaugurating a system whereby every one of these has been set aside. His desire for peace brought about the travesty of a "Peace Congress" at the Hague, whose only effect has been to inflame the passions of the world, and render the continuance even of the questionable peace prevailing at the end of the century, a work of gigantic responsibility. His dislike for wanton aggression was instrumental in bringing on the massacre of Blagoveschensk and the unprovoked seizure of Manchuria. His love of free institutions has ended in the faithless destruction of the constitution of the Grand Duchy of Finland, which his predecessors and himself bound themselves by the most solemn of oaths to respect: and finally his conscientious administration of justice has led him in the face of his own ordinances to punish with forced military service the boy students of St. Petersburg, who had remonstrated against the breach of promises given to them by himself in person at the beginning of his reign. Even his marriage to a princess, amiable, virtuous and accomplished, which the world looked upon as the crowning joy of an amiable monarch, such as he at one time promised to be, has added to his bitter cup of woe. With a superstitious craving for male offspring exceeding even that of the Chinese themselves, four daughters only have blessed the prayers and contrition of the Tsar, and NICHOLAS II, brought up in and surrounded by the meshes of a faith as yet but little removed from the primitive ideas of a VLADIMIR, sees in the fact the judgment of Heaven, and frightened by the terrors of the Church, commits those very crimes which churchmen in all ages have forced upon their unwilling votaries. By such means, and with such intentions, always of the best, the Tsar NICHOLAS II has succeeded not only in losing the confidence of all classes of his subjects, but in incurring the positive hatred of many of the most influential. The legal classes, always most influential in Russia, have viewed with dismay his attempts to re-introduce the age of the *themistes*, and to supersede the written law by the inspired "doom" of the sovereign: the student class, from whom the future legislators of the Empire have to come, has been thoroughly alienated by the attempts of the Tsar to introduce the law of caprice; and to punish them for artificial crimes made such only by the momentary fad of the Tsar. The nobles impoverished by the acts of his grandfather listen with complacency to the rumbling of the coming storm; while the army itself whose allegiance to the Tsar once took the form of a religious reverence to the person of their "Little Father" now look with undisguised contempt on a ruler whose amiable weaknesses have discredited the namesake of the grim NICHOLAS who dared Europe in the Crimea—and all the more that amidst his other weaknesses he was the first of the Tsars to hold out service in the Army of Holy Russia as a punishment for traitorous crimes. Thus it

has happened that in the eclipse of the nominal head of the States every one, however small his post, has become a law unto himself where the only indicator of right is might, and the official considers not what is best for the state but what is good for himself. This seems to be the only explanation of the very remarkable position of affairs in Eastern Asia. Times without number the Government or what remains of it in St. Petersburg has disavowed the acts of its subordinates in Manchuria, and has given orders that no acts of encroachment were to be perpetrated. Yet those instructions have been deliberately set at naught, and we are left to choose between assigning the issue to insubordination on the part of the officials, or to some gigantic and superfluous exhibition of ill faith on the part of the Tsar. It is true that instances of this apparent opposition between the Office at St. Petersburg and the camp in Asia have at all times been characteristic of Russia's advance, yet we doubt if ever before the phenomenon was so shamelessly exhibited in the face of open day. The recent case of Colonel POWELL was one of the most barefaced of all. This English officer, with letters of credence from both Russian and English Governments, was arrested in Chinese territory by an officer pretending to be under the control of the Russian Government. We are so accustomed to the exercise of arbitrary powers by the Russian Government that the fact of the arrest of a British subject with papers all in order, and travelling for perfectly legal purposes, and with the full knowledge of the Russian Government, has almost ceased to excite more than the most passing notice. The case of Colonel POWELL, however, was remarkable in that the officer was not travelling in Russian territory at all. Doubtless the act has been disavowed at St. Petersburg, but the fact remains that the Russian Empire has already so far advanced on the road to disruption that an official at Moukden finds that he can with impunity contravene the explicit orders sent to him from St. Petersburg and that his Government is not powerful enough to see its own orders obeyed. Such a state of affairs has at all times been dangerous for the peace of the world, and has in every case proved disastrous to the Government itself that permitted it. Russia in fact is not far from a military dictatorship, and the indication given by the personal weakness of the Tsar is not one that Europe can afford to witness with complacency.

THE FUTURE OF THE SANITARY BOARD.

(Daily Press, 7th September.)

Thursday's meeting of the Sanitary Board was a quiet and practical affair, devoid of the unnecessary discussions which have marked so many meetings of this body. The absence of some controversial members may partly account for this fact. The most notable point was the assumption of the presidency of the Board by Dr. J. M. ATKINSON, Principal Civil Medical Officer of the Colony, with the inaugural speech which he delivered. Dr. ATKINSON proceeded without hesitation to the most important matter which can engage the attention of the Sanitary Board, and, as will have been seen with gratification by Hongkong residents, avowed himself in favour of a vigorous campaign against bubonic plague. Upon the deliberations of the Board, he observed, depends to a great extent the Colony's sanitary well-being in the future. This is true, provided that the Government accepts the recommendations of the Sanitary

Board, which it is now so anxious to prove that it does. The Board, if it conscientiously works its hardest to combat the greatest curse of Hongkong, absolves itself from blame in the performance of its duty toward the Colony. Dr. ATKINSON's speech may be taken as an earnest that he, as president, will do his utmost, and the augury is a good one.

The measures which are to be taken to prevent the introduction of plague into Hongkong next year, says the Principal Civil Medical Officer, will be by a rational quarantine to attempt to stop the introduction of fresh cases from infected places. This in itself is a necessary step, but is very difficult to enforce owing to the peculiar position of our Island. A rigid quarantine, such as Dr. ATKINSON described, is of course out of the question. A rational quarantine presumably means that kind of precaution which we take now from the beginning of each year. Stricter measures seem almost impossible without paralysing the trade of the port and throwing on the police work which they cannot perform in the present circumstances of the force. Apart from quarantine regulations, it is to general sanitary principles to which we are told by Dr. ATKINSON to look, combined with the following procedure:—(a) The speedy discovery and isolation of every fresh case (b) The thorough disinfection of infected houses, combined with the temporary evacuation, or better still the destruction of infected houses, or even neighbourhoods. (c) The disinfection of infected clothes and bedding." All these measures have been, as far as possible with the means at our command, adopted during the epidemics which we have suffered hitherto; but the extreme step of destroying the whole of an infected neighbourhood was only resorted to in the case of Taipingshan in 1894. We have been unable to keep down plague by these measures so far, partly no doubt because of the sanitary staff being inadequate to carry them out with such strictness as is necessary. Dr. ATKINSON further advocates strongly the cremation of dead plague bodies dumped in the streets, a step which would certainly arouse a strong opposition, but which is nevertheless eminently desirable. Those who talk about the offence to Chinese prejudices are in this going too far. Scrupulous Chinese do not throw the bodies of their dead into the street. We are convinced that the radical measure, as Dr. ATKINSON styles it, is alone likely to stop this disgusting and dangerous practice which has caused our sanitary and police authority such endless trouble during times of epidemic. As to the advocacy by Dr. ATKINSON of the destruction of all vermin proved to spread the disease, the proposal is admirable, but surely not feasible. Does "vermin" simply mean rats and mice, or are fleas, etc., accused by some authorities of helping to spread plague, included in the term? Even with rats alone we cannot cope.

Finally the new president of the Sanitary Board indicated the action which might become necessary if the above procedure failed to stamp out plague. It is modelled on the measures taken at Osaka in 1899, and includes the destruction by fire of all houses where fresh cases occur after a few months' immunity; the burning of all infected clothes and bedding; and the cremation of all plague bodies. Such a scheme involves an enormous expense on the part of the Government, and would also cause an outcry among the natives. But the question resolves itself into this: Are we to be put to heavy expense every year and see our commerce suffering losses which threaten to

become permanent, while we accumulate a reserve fund as fast as we can hoard it; and are we to have Chinese in an annual state of discontent, driving them to leave the Colony during the plague season in vast numbers? Or, on the other hand, are we to make an effort greater than we have ventured on before to get rid of the disease from our midst? In the present state of our knowledge of plague, it may be said that only experts have a right to speak on the question how to combat it. Nevertheless, we are certain that the mass of residents in the Colony welcome the fact that Dr. ATKINSON last Thursday ranged himself plainly on the side of those who would deal vigorously with the scourge and make a great attempt to drive it away bodily. We see by results that tinkering with it as we have in the past has only allowed plague to become firmly rooted in the soil of the Colony. In the circumstances the want of a change of policy is clearly indicated. The Sanitary Board has a tremendous task before it, but such a declaration as that of its president is at least encouraging as indicative of the spirit in which it is prepared to force that task.

PRINCE CHUN'S MISSION IN GERMANY.

(Daily Press, 4th September.)

The difficulty which has arisen in connection with Prince CHUN's mission of apology to Germany is extremely unfortunate, but not surprising. It appears now that the *koutou* is not required from Prince CHUN—indeed Germany could not have asked for this—but from his staff. The Prince himself, it is reported, is to be accorded the honours due to his birth, but his followers are expected to perform the "humiliating *koutou*," as REUTER's telegram describes it, before the German Emperor. The followers, however, have expressed their preference for death rather than this—a position which can be understood in a Chinaman, and perhaps in a Chinaman alone, on whom the lessons of recent history have no effect. The days when ambassadors made humiliating obeisances to their Emperor are not forgotten by the Chinese, while Chinese officials have never done the like to other sovereigns. In the circumstances, therefore, the attitude of Prince CHUN's staff is natural enough. Nevertheless, it is necessary for Germany to maintain a firm position. A particularly treacherous act is being atoned for by the Mission which is now at Basle, and the Chinese Government is not able to clear itself of complicity. Consequently there must be no half-hearted apology on the part of the Chinese representatives. There need be no vindictive insistence on behaviour from Prince CHUN which will degrade him in his own eyes and in those of his fellow-countrymen; but Germany cannot allow the apology to be otherwise than full and marked. There are many who would have liked to see the Mission treated with less courtesy and not recognised at all on its way to Germany. Such conduct, however, would have been unreasonable and an uncalled-for slight on a Prince whose influence on China may possibly be considerable in the future. To have treated the Mission as some have suggested would only have alienated Prince CHUN's mind entirely, and would have defeated the object of his journey, even if it had not led to an open rupture. Had the desire of Germany been merely to cast indignity on China, the hearty support of the other Powers would not have been forthcoming. However, this of course was not Germany's desire, and it is to be hoped that the present difficulty

may be got rid of quickly, and the Mission brought to a successful termination, in the interests of international harmony and good-feeling.

(Daily Press, 6th September.)

As we expressed the hope in our issue of Wednesday, the difficulty about Prince CHUN's mission of apology to Germany for the murder by Chinese last year of Baron VON KETTELER has been satisfactorily settled. The Kaiser gave up his demand for the "humiliating *kowtow*" from Prince CHUN's staff and also for a procession of the Mission through the streets of Berlin. Prince CHUN's reception was devoid, it would seem, of the accompaniment of theatrical accessories, though it may be gathered that a large assemblage witnessed the delivery by the Chinese Prince of his brother's letter. This is a satisfactory termination of the incident. There has been considerable surprise expressed in Germany, we are told, at the Kaiser's attempt to insist upon the *kowtow*. His Imperial German Majesty, however, has a predilection for pomp, which would certainly have been gratified by what he at first asked from the Chinese Mission. Wisely he has consented to forego the extreme signs of humiliation, which there can have been little or no chance of his obtaining, save by force. After all, the Mission has travelled half round the world, and a member of the Chinese Imperial family has performed an act unprecedented in the history of the Empire, which in itself is a sufficient shock to conservative Oriental susceptibilities. Prince CHUN will now be at liberty to receive the full courtesies due to his station, and his tour, it is to be trusted, will not be without a strong effect on him personally nor without benefit to the future progress of China.

CHINESE EXAMINATION REFORM.

(Daily Press, 4th September.)

The abolition by Imperial edict of the *Wên-chang*, or standard essay in literary examinations, the news of which we published in our Shanghai correspondent's telegram yesterday, is an event which can but have a great effect on education in China. The *Wên-chang* may be styled the backbone of the Civil Service examinations in China. The following sentences, which are quoted by Mr. J. DYER BALL in his *Things Chinese*, give as good an idea of the character of the *Wên-chang* as can be asked for:—"The standard essay—*Wên-chang*—has been the chief cause of the working of the minds of literati, and causing them to labour ceaselessly in the same old tread-mill, it has held absolute sway for a millennium over China's intellectual life, and its baneful effects can be seen everywhere in the literature of the last three dynasties. Scholars have learned what they could not afterwards make use of in actual life, and they have had no time left for learning what could be used. The scholars of the Sung dynasty bequeathed in this legacy of the *Wên-chang* a burden of such weight upon the mental life of China that it has been steadily crushing out its very existence. Originated to perpetuate classical learning, it has been the liveliest factor in suppressing the desire for such knowledge. It has absolutely nothing to be said in its favour, unless the remark of an eminent living statesman of China be given to its credit that 'it has repressed rebellion by keeping the minds of ambitious men cramped by the pursuit of useless knowledge.' The main reason that has kept it alive has been that it was supposed

"to be the essence of orthodox Confucianism." An attempt by the Emperor to introduce essays on modern subjects in place of the *Wên-chang* nearly cost him his life and brought on the *coup d'état*. The promulgation of the new edict, it is to be hoped, will be attended with happier results and lead to the progress of China among the nations.

STATE-OWNED CABLES.

(Daily Press, 5th August.)

We have received from the President and Council of the Ottawa Board of Trade a copy of a circular letter addressed to the Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, on the subject of State-owned cables, and an Imperial postal cable service, with appendices by Sir SANDFORD FLEMING. The Ottawa Board of Trade, confident in the importance of the movement to nationalise the British cable and telegraph service, invites aid and co-operation. In the circular letter it is pointed out that the proposal for all British possessions throughout the world to be directly connected by State-owned telegraph cables requires not only that the transmarine cables should be under Government control, but also the land telegraphs of the several British possessions. The land telegraphs of the United Kingdom, New Zealand, the Australian States, India and South Africa, continues the letter, are already nationalised and administered by the Post Office. Canada is the only exception; but the transfer of the Canadian telegraph lines to the Post Office, together with the laying of a State-owned cable across the Atlantic, the Ottawa Board is informed, is under the consideration of the Government, and it may be assumed that Canada will not long remain the only country within the Empire where the telegraph system is not, in the public interests, controlled by the State. The Board goes on to express its gratification that the Pacific Cable is now being established, and that there is every prospect of Canada being connected with the United Kingdom at an early date by a State-owned trans-Atlantic Cable. Reckoning by meridians of longitude, therefore, two-thirds of the globe will be girdled by a State-owned telegraph service, so soon as the Pacific cable and Canadian lines associated therewith are established as national works. The necessity for connecting India and other British possessions in Asia with the Imperial system of telegraphy must, however, be recognised. Reference to the papers appended to the circular letter shows that the Imperial scheme of cables to traverse the Indian and Atlantic oceans between Perth and London, embraces the following works, viz:—

1. Cable from Western Australia, via Cocos Island and Mauritius, to South Africa, with branches to India and Singapore.—9,100 miles.
2. Cable from South Africa, via Ascension and Barbadoes, to Bermuda, thence to Canada and the United Kingdom.—6,600 miles.

These two sections together make 15,700 nautical miles, while the distance from London to Perth by the Canadian route is about the same, the actual distance being a few hundred miles less. Thus it will be seen, says the Board's letter, that taking into account branch cables to connect all the British possessions, half the whole work is already or will shortly be accomplished.

The appendices by Sir SANDFORD FLEMING, the most persistent and unwaver-

ing advocate of the cable-nationalisation scheme, enforce the arguments of the Ottawa Board, and must appeal with the greatest force to those who have Imperial interests at heart. They comprise a paper read before the Royal Society of Canada and four letters, addressed respectively to the Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1898, to the Earl of HOPETOUN in 1900, to the Postmaster General of Canada and the President of the British Empire League in the Dominion this year. We have alluded in past articles to Sir SANDFORD FLEMING's letter to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN in 1898. It is perhaps the strongest defence of the State-owned cable scheme ever penned. One point in particular made by the writer is of tremendous force. Sir SANDFORD FLEMING says:—"One advantage peculiar to a globe-encircling system of cables will be apparent; each point touched would be in connection with every other point by two routes extending in opposite directions. This feature is of special value, as it practically constitutes a double connection in each case." The projected system of all-British cables with its branches, the writer goes on to point out, would doubly connect the following fortified and garrisoned coaling stations:—Hongkong, Singapore, Trincomalee, Colombo, Aden, Cape Town, Simons Bay, St. Helena, Ascension, St. Lucia, Jamaica, Bermuda, Halifax, Esquimaux, King George's Sound, and Thursday Island. The following "defended ports" would likewise be connected:—Durban, Karachi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Rangoon, Adelaide, Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane, Townsville, Auckland, Wellington, Lyttletown, and Dunedin. Such an argument is unanswerable, and we know enough in China of the inconveniences and actual dangers of cable interruption, with only a single line, to appreciate as much as any one in the world the strength of the case presented. The questions which Sir SANDFORD FLEMING then, in 1898, proceeded to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies may certainly be asked again now. Would it not be in the interest of a great commercial people, he enquired, to have these and all such points in the outer empire connected by a means of communication so perfect as the electric telegraph? Is it not a matter which vitally concerns every British community around the globe? Is it not in their common interest that they all should be placed in possession of the speediest means of conveying intelligence the one to the other, free from the burden of high charges? The answer to these queries is obvious, and it is generally recognised now that State-owned cables between all the British possessions are only a matter of time. Other nations are working on the same lines, and Great Britain could not afford to be behind them in this, even were the plan not so plainly desirable in itself.

A correspondent sends us the following interesting item of news:—The fishermen of Southern China have been scared by the recent appearance of a dragon. The apparition has caused quite a sensation and the news has spread like wildfire. Report says that the dragon was observed to ascend from the sea in the direction of the horizon and vanish amidst the clouds, leaving a luminous trail behind it. The dragon was golden in colour and similar in shape to those generally embroidered on Chinese silks. The two horns were short and not quite developed, and above its head were three bright red stars and some Chinese characters. The rustics say that Kwangtung will produce an Emperor when the horns of the dragon are developed. Our correspondent suggests: Perhaps this story is connected with the sea serpent recently observed off the south coast of China.

PRIVATE CHAIR AND JINRICKSHA DIFFICULTIES.

(Daily Press, 2nd September.)

In the *Government Gazette* there is published the announcement of a Commission which will be welcomed by the residents in this Colony. H.E. the Governor has appointed Messrs. T. SEECOMBE SMITH, R. C. WILCOX, and F. J. BADELEY, with Mr. L. D'ALMADA E CASTRO as secretary, to "enquire into and report on the question of the existing difficulty of procuring and retaining reliable chair and jinricksha-coolies for private chairs and jinrickshas." Special reference, it appears from the terms of the Commission, is to be made to the following points:—

- What are the causes of the existing difficulty?
- Whether it is advisable and practicable to introduce any, and (if any) what legislation on the subject?
- What other (if any) remedial measures should be taken?
- Whether any proposed legislation or other measures should embrace coolies in the employ of Chinese and non-Chinese alike?

The Commission is to have all the powers of the Supreme Court or any judge thereof on the occasion of any suit or action in connection with enforcing the attendance of witnesses, the compulsory production of documents, punishment for contempt, and ordering the inspection of any property. The examination of witnesses is to be held in private, the Commission reporting to H.E. the evidence and its opinion thereon. There can be no doubt that a Commission of this kind is urgently required. During this summer the situation with regard to private chair and jinricksha carriage has been acute. The epidemic of plague intensified the difficulties, but apart from this, complaints of the insolence, unreliability, and frequent disappearance of private chair and jinricksha-coolies have been more frequent this year than we can remember, except in times of exceptionally grave crisis. We have known several cases where residents have, temporarily at least, abandoned the use of private chairs and employed public ones instead. The hardship inflicted on people living at a distance from the centre of the city has been great, and the Commission will confer a real boon on the Colony if it can find some means of improving the situation. The work of some Commissions appears never to get beyond the paper stage, often, perhaps, owing to the unwieldy size of the body appointed. In the present case this latter defect does not exist, and with three gentlemen of such undoubted competence to enquire into the question, we shall entertain strong hopes of good results from their labours.

On the receipt by the Chinese in Shanghai of the news of the ruin wrought by the overflowing of the Yangtze, two Chinese banks advanced at once the sum of Tls. 20,000 to a Chinese committee formed to collect subscriptions, and with this sum a special delegate was sent up the river to distribute relief. The committee then set to work and promptly collected \$1,000 from the China Merchants S. N. Co., and \$20,000 from other Chinese friends. They have also received already the following subscriptions from foreigners—Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Tls. 1,000; Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, Tls. 1,000; Messrs. Haron, Daniel & Co. Tls. 500; The China & Japan Trading Co. Tls. 500; Messrs. Reiss & Co. Tls. 500; Messrs. Holliday, Wise & Co. Tls. 500; Mr. A. Ross, Tls. 200. A foreign committee has been formed to work in co-operation with the Chinese committee.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SHANGHAI, 2nd September, 8.19 p.m.

Decrees have been issued abolishing the *Wên-chang* in literary examinations and ordering essays on Western subjects. They also abolish all old-fashioned feats in military examinations, and order existing military *chuyen* and *chenshili* to join the provincial army corps.

SHANGHAI, 6th September, 7.37 p.m.

A Peking special despatch states that the Ministers have received the two remaining Edicts, the Chinese plenipotentiaries claiming that they have only just arrived.

A Sinfu special telegram states that H.M.S. *Woodcock* arrived at Kiating on the 3rd inst. all right.

SHANGHAI, 6th September, 10.30 pm.

A special wire from Peking to-night is to the effect that at a meeting of the Ministers, the Edicts were approved, and that the signature of all the copies would probably take place to-morrow.

If Li Hung-chang is unable to be present at the signing of the Edicts, owing to sickness, he will sign at home.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 5th inst. in the Board Room. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer), on his appointment as President, occupied the chair, and there were present the Hon. W. Chatham (Acting Director of Public Works), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. Lau Chu Pak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

DR. ATKINSON'S APPOINTMENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD.

A letter from the Colonial Secretary was laid on the table intimating that H.E. the Governor had appointed Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, to be President of the Board, with effect from the 24th ult. *vice* the Hon. W. Chatham, Acting Director of Public Works, resigned.

Addressing the meeting, the PRESIDENT said—Gentlemen, before resuming my seat I would earnestly ask for your hearty co-operation. The position of the President, especially at this time, is not one to be envied, and were it not that I am strongly of the opinion that the Principal Civil Medical Officer should be the President I would personally hesitate before undertaking the heavy responsibilities of this office. The Colony has for the sixth year been afflicted with one of the direst diseases which can attack a community, and upon our deliberations and actions depends to a great extent its future sanitary well-being. We have to face the almost certain probability of another outbreak in the coming year, and it behoves us to leave no stone unturned in preparing for this eventuality. In looking back upon this year's experience it will be seen that the outbreak lasted some three-and-a-half months, and it was not until the mean maximum daily temperature exceeded 82 Fahr. that the epidemic began to decline. The number of Europeans attacked was not much greater than in 1898, the exact figures being:—

	Europeans attacked.	Deaths.	Mortality.
1898	26	11	42.3
1901	30	11	36.6

The cases that did occur were more self-evident, most of them being on the Queen's Road level. The first case, three in number, occurred at Watson's Dispensary. The next was an employee of the Naval Yard; he evidently infected the house in which he was residing, as three subsequent Europeans were attacked in this house. The day subsequent to this employee being attacked, another European employee of the Naval Yard was reported to be suffering from the disease, and in the buildings in which he resided four subsequent European cases of

plague occurred. Then there was an European employee in a bicycle shop in D'Aguilar Street, and shortly afterwards a publican at Wanchai. Connaught House was next attacked, and later on cases occurred in Beaconsfield Arcade, necessitating the closing of these houses. Now is the time for us to unite in our endeavour to further the future sanitary well-being of this, the remotest but by no means the least important of His Majesty's dominions. Plague is evidently now endemic in Southern China. All scientists are agreed that it is a fifth disease, fostered by destitution, overcrowding, and lack of ventilation, its specific cause being a bacillus which probably lives in the soil and attacks lower animals. The fact that it can be communicated to lower animals by feeding them on the tissues, etc., of plague patients and on cultures of the specific bacillus suggests that it may be transmitted to man through food and drink. The measures to be taken to prevent its introduction next year will be by a rational quarantine to attempt to stop the introduction of fresh cases from infected ports or districts.

It is perfectly impossible by quarantine alone, however rigidly enforced, to absolutely protect this Colony, situated as it is upon the borders of a large district where plague is endemic and every year becomes epidemic. See what this would mean:—

(a.) A quarantine station capable of providing accommodation for 30,000 people would be required, as I am credibly informed that 3,000 or 4,000 Chinese on an average enter the Colony daily.

(b.) A military cordon would be required on the northern limit of our frontier, and

(c.) A police cordon would have to be maintained all round our extensive coast-line.

Singapore, it may be by means of a rigidly enforced "quarantine of inspection," has been able to keep the disease out of her borders. I think, however, that it will probably be found, when the natural history of the bacillus is thoroughly understood, she enjoys her immunity more from meteorological causes.

It is to principles of general sanitation that we must look for our safeguard, combined with the following procedure:—

(a.) The speedy discovery and isolation of every fresh case.

(b.) The thorough disinfection of infected houses, combined with the temporary evacuation or better still the destruction of infected houses or even neighbourhoods.

(c.) The disinfection of infected clothes and bedding.

I would also advocate, as I did in the 1898 epidemic:—

(d.) The cremation of dead plague bodies surreptitiously deposited in the streets. Some radical measure such as this must be enforced, as this in my opinion is the main cause of our difficulty in grappling with this disease.

(e.) All vermin which have been proved to spread the disease must be killed.

These measures involve the expenditure of money, but I feel sure the community will not grudge any reasonable outlay in this respect.

The public health of the Colony is paramount, and if we cannot by this procedure I have described quash this disease, it will be necessary to seriously consider the advisability of the following action:—

1. To destroy and burn every house in which, after a few months of immunity, fresh cases occur.

2. To destroy by burning all infected clothes and bedding, and

3. Cremate all bodies which have died from this disease.

These are the radical measures adopted with success by Japan at Osaka two years ago and again this year at Honolulu.

MR. WOODCOCK APPOINTED SECRETARY.

The appointment of Mr. G. A. Woodcock, Acting Secretary of the Board, to the office of Secretary, was intimated.

GOVERNMENT AND SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

In reply to the recommendation of the Sanitary Improvements Committee, in their further report dated 16th July, 1901, that continuous back alleys at the rear of Chinese houses should be insisted upon, the Government has advised that before any steps are taken the report be

awaited of the sanitary expert who, it was hoped, would be sent out from England.

The reply was laid on the table.

HONGKONG FREE FROM PLAGUE.

On the 20th ult., H. B. M. Consul at Foochow telegraphed asking if there was any bubonic plague in this Colony. Two days later a reply was sent to the effect that bubonic plague no longer exists in Hongkong.

The correspondence was laid on the table.

THE COMBATING OF THE PLAGUE.

The following letter of thanks was read from Government relative to the manner in which sanitary duties have been performed during the recent epidemic of plague:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
26th August, 1901.

Sir,—I am directed to request you to convey to the members of the Sanitary Board and to the staff of the Sanitary Department the thanks of H. E. the Governor for the excellent manner in which they have discharged their duties during the recent epidemic of plague.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART-LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

The PRESIDENT,
Sanitary Board.

MR. OSBORNE ON HIS HOLIDAY.

A letter was read from Mr. E. Osborne, informing the Board that he will be absent from the Colony for three months.

Mr. Osborne left on Wednesday, 25th ult., for Japan.

REPORT ON BUBONIC PLAGUE.

A report by the Medical Officer of Health on bubonic plague for the half year ending June 30th, 1901, was laid on the table.

The PRESIDENT—This report was considered at the last confidential meeting of the Board, and amended. The report as now presented is this amended report. I move that it be adopted and forwarded to the Hon. Colonial Secretary for the information of H. E. the Governor.

Mr. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT—With reference to this report, I move that the special thanks of the Board be conveyed to Inspector Reidie for the excellent services rendered by him during the recent outbreak of plague. I might mention that when at home on leave he took the opportunity of inspecting all recent improvements in England with reference to the disinfection of infected premises, more especially during the epidemic in Glasgow. I move that the special thanks of the Board be conveyed to Inspector Reidie for his excellent services during the recent outbreak of plague, and that the Board also thank the following officers—Inspectors Rogers, C. W. Brett, Fincher, Knight, and Police Inspector Robertson—for the way in which they have performed their duties.

Mr. CHATHAM—I have much pleasure in seconding the proposal, and in doing so I just wish to say that if the Government could see its way to allow of some more substantial recognition than the mere tendering of thanks by the Board, I shall be very pleased to support anything of that nature.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

ERECTION OF URINALS APPROVED.

The Government has approved the erection of two urinals, one near the Canton and Macao Steamboat Wharf and one near the old Nam Pak Hong Pier.

ADDITIONAL LATRINES.

Dr. CLARK, pursuant to notice, moved:—

That the Board recommend the Government to erect a public latrine—

(a) On the south side of a lane between Inland Lot No. 652 and the compound of No. 3 Police Station—forty seats.

(b) On the south side of a cross street to the west of the Kowloon City Road and about 100 yards to the west of Kowloon Inland Lot No. 633—fifty seats.

(c) At the corner of Fourth Street and Kennedy Street, Yaumatei, to the south of Fourth Street and to the east of Kennedy Street—fifty seats.

The President minuted:—"It would be as well to have a plan showing the proposed sites."

Dr. CLARK—These sites have been selected by myself, in consultation with the

Director of Public Works, and it requires a formal resolution by the Board before notice can be inserted in the *Gazette* and before the latrines can be built.

The PRESIDENT seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

STANLEY AND THE SANITARY LAWS.

A petition from Chinese at Stanley was laid on the table. The petitioners, in effect, ask that certain sanitary laws may not be applied to this bay, "so that the inhabitants may live in peace."

The petition was circulated amongst the members of the Board, and the following minutes were appended:—

Lieut.-Col. Hughes:—"The law should be enforced on all alike."

Mr. Lau Chu Pak:—"I would leave these poor people alone, if no plague cases have ever occurred amongst them."

Mr. Fung Wa Chuen:—"If the bye-laws are to be enforced, I would suggest that the Government afford these poor people some help."

Mr. Osborne:—"Whatever alterations can be done without any expense to them, make these do. But do not enforce the laws otherwise, except as regards cleansing and lime-washing, which should be rigidly enforced."

Dr. Clark:—"Dr. Pearce and I visited Stanley on the 24th inst., and I have instructed the inspector in what directions he can enforce the Public Health Ordinance without undue hardship."

The President:—"The M.O.H. might call for a report from the sanitary inspector specifying what is required to be done. Either he or the Assistant M.O.H. might visit Stanley and inform the Board."

Mr. May:—"The law should be enforced with a certain discretion. There is no reason why cubicles and cocklofts should not be removed and ventilation improved as far as possible, and a good deal will be found possible without inflicting hardship."

Mr. Chatham:—"Moderation should be observed in dealing with such places."

The PRESIDENT—This petition from the inhabitants of Stanley is against the laws of the Colony, really. It appears that the sanitary bye-laws have not been enforced there hitherto. I think we might leave it to the discretion of the Medical Officer of Health to gradually introduce these bye-laws and enforce them where he sees it necessary.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK seconded, and the proposal was agreed to.

BACKYARDS TO HOUSES.

Correspondence relative to the backyards of the houses on Section A of Inland Lot No. 247 was laid on the table.

The houses, which are now nearing completion, were, it appears, in course of construction at the time Ordinance 13 of 1901 became law, but they do not comply with Section 56 of that Ordinance, which provides for backyards to houses.

The attention of the owner was called to this fact, and he through Mr. J. F. Reece, solicitor, pointed out that the plans of the houses were approved by the Public Works Department and by the Medical Officer of Health before the passing of Ordinance 13 of 1901, but after the Bill had been read a first time and published in the *Gazette*. The plans were approved, therefore, Mr. Reece held, with a full knowledge of the proposed legislation.

Dr. Clark minuted:—"I have inspected these houses, and find that they will be fairly sanitary when completed. In view of the circumstances of the case I think the Board should waive its right to compel the owner to alter the houses now, so as to meet the recent decision of the Hon. Attorney-General re Crown streets in the rear of private buildings not counting as "open spaces in the rear, provided by the owner."

The Acting Director of Public Works minuted:—"The houses are certainly well situated as regards open space in the rear. I consider it absurd to require the provision of backyards in such cases. What I would like to see would be a restriction in the enormous height of the houses, fronting on such a narrow street. I am in favour of passing them."

Dr. CLARK moved that the Board accept the buildings as they now stand as complying with the Ordinance.

Mr. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was carried.

LIMEWASHING RETURN.

The limewashing return for the fortnight ended 2nd inst. was laid on the table. The return shows that in the Eastern district, out of a total of 1,880 houses, altogether 1,147 have been limewashed.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Reports were laid on the table relative to the analysis of public water supplies for the month of August. Samples were taken from the Kowloon, Tytam, and Pokfulam services, and in each case the water was found to be of excellent quality.

MORTALITY IN MACAO.

The mortality return from Macao for the week ended 25th August shows a total of 69 deaths. None was due to plague.

MORTALITY STATISTICS FOR THE COLONY.

The mortality statistics for this Colony for the week ended 24th August show a death-rate of 27.0 per 1,000, as against 16.8 in the preceding week and 21.8 in the corresponding week of last year.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE.

Dr. CLARK moved that Inspector J. T. Cotton be authorised by the Board to institute prosecutions in cases of contravention of the provisions of the Public Health Ordinance.

Mr. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

ADDITIONAL SENIOR INSPECTORS.

Correspondence was laid on the table relative to a telegram being sent to England regarding the appointment of five senior inspectors.

Dr. Atkinson on the 28th August wrote to the Government recommending that a telegram be sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies requesting that these men be appointed and sent out to Hongkong as early a date as possible. It was incumbent upon the Board, the President pointed out, to make every endeavour in its power to get the Colony into such a condition that the plague could be attacked at its onset when it appears, as it probably would, early next year. The first case appeared this year on the 4th of January. If these senior inspectors could arrive this year, so much the better, as there was much to be done to improve the sanitary condition of the Colony. Eight first-class inspectors had been provided for in this year's Estimates, but there were only three inspectors on the actual staff, therefore the senior inspectors, provided they arrived this year, could be paid out of the lapsing salaries of the first-class inspectors.

H. E. the Governor approved the suggestion contained in the letter, and on 30th August the following telegram was despatched to the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—"Referring to my despatch No. 265 of 23rd July, send at once five senior sanitary inspectors."

This was all the business.

A correspondent relates in the *Courrier d'Haiphong* an amusing story, as he calls it, about General Lorne Campbell at Tientsin. He says that a French petty officer, in a state of intoxication, was passing General Campbell's house at night, when he was seized with the idea of paying him a visit. The official on watch at the house-door tried to prevent him, but the Frenchman was too strong and broke in. Then appeared on the scene the General himself, very scantily clad, but whip in hand. With whip and foot he assisted the French petty officer out of the house. At this moment a French patrol passed, to whom their countryman appealed loudly. Seeing a man in light attire, armed with a whip, they attempted to arrest him, but General Campbell "with the Englishman's innate love of boxing" fell upon the patrol vigorously. They would, however, have treated him roughly, when they suddenly discovered who he was. Next day General Campbell sent in an indignant complaint to General Goyron, who cordially agreed with him about the drunken petty officer, but pointed out that his attitude toward the French patrol was hardly in keeping with his high rank. We wonder what amount of truth there is in this little tale.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SANITARY BOARD'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following is the statement prepared, at the request of Mr. Edward Osborne, by the Medical Officer of Health and the Secretary of the Sanitary Board, showing the recommendations which the Board and its officers have made during the past ten years in respect of additional markets, public latrines and urinals, and how far such recommendations have been carried out:—

MARKETS.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Extension of Shaukiwan Market.

1895.—It was resolved by the Board on 7th November:—"That the plans now before the Board be adopted and that a letter be addressed to the Hon. Colonial Secretary recommending that His Excellency the Governor will be pleased to approve of early steps being taken to carry out these necessary works."

1897.—It was resolved by the Board on 30th September:—"That a letter be addressed to the Colonial Secretary advising that a temporary structure, as suggested by the Secretary, be erected by the Public Works Department as speedily as possible."

1899.—It was resolved by the Board on 2nd February:—"That the attention of the Government be directed to the following points raised in the report of the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon for the year 1898:—

(d.) the necessity for additional stalls at the *Shaukiwan Market.*"

New Western Market.

1897.—It was resolved by the Board on 22nd April:—"That in the opinion of the Board (a) improved and extended market accommodation is urgently required in the vicinity of the *Western and Saiyingpoon Markets.*"

New Market for Taikoktsui.

1897.—It was resolved by the Board on 30th June:—"That the Board advises that such a market building as is recommended by the Acting Director of Public Works in his minute dated 16th June, 1897, be erected at *Taikoktsui* as speedily as is practicable."

Extension of Wanchai Market.

Recommended by special committee appointed in consequence of recommendation made by S.B. in letter No. 22 of 18th January, 1901.

New Market at Kowloon Point.

1900.—It was resolved by the Board on 27th September:—"That in view of the

REMARKS.

Plans approved by Board, November, 1895 (vide subsequent recommendation of the Board under).

Completed.

Western Market extensively repaired in 1897.

New Western Market commenced in 1901. Plans of Saiyingpoon Market approved by Board October, 1895.

Completed.

Plans approved by Board, 11th June, 1901. Estimate of \$7,000 approved and vote being obtained to enable work to be undertaken.

Estimate of \$81,000 approved, and \$5,000 voted in 1901 for preparation of site.

increasing population of Kowloon Point the Government be asked to provide a market on a convenient site for residents of that locality."

Additional Temporary Markets for City.

1901.—It was resolved by the Board on 17th January:—"That the Board beg to recommend the Government to erect temporary market sheds on vacant sites of Crown land in the City of Victoria, or failing this to rent shops in suitable localities for the sale of meat, and other food stuffs, and allow the existing licences for the sale of fresh meat and fish in domestic buildings to lapse."

Additional Stalls for Sookonpoo Markets.

C. S. O. 2297/1900. S.B. letter No. 22 of 18th January, 1901.

Eight Additional Stalls to Yau Ma Tei.

S.B. letter No. 116.

Approved. These will be wooden structures, not market sheds. Estimate of \$15,000 for two temporary markets approved and vote being obtained to enable work to be undertaken.

Expenditure approved. Work in hand.

Expenditure approved, 26th May, 1901. Work in hand.

LATRINES AND URINALS.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Additional Latrines and Urinals.

1894.—It was resolved by the Board on 16th August:—"That in the opinion of this Board the latrine accommodation of this City is insufficient and that it would be advisable for the Government to build suitable and sufficient free public latrines at an early date."

1895.—It was resolved by the Board on 11th April:—(a) "That the Director of Public Works be informed that the Board approves of the alteration in the latrine (at Saiyingpoon Market) provided the latrine is kept, as far as possible, exclusively for the use of the stall-holders in the market; (b) That representation be addressed to Government urging the provision in the neighbourhood of the market of latrine accommodation for the public, who at present are in the habit of using the latrine in the market, a purpose for which the latter was not intended."

Latrine at Leighton's Hill.

1896.—It was resolved by the Board on 8th October:—"That a letter be addressed to the Colonial Secretary requesting that a latrine of 12 seats be erected at as early a date as practicable in the immediate vicinity of the existing small latrine near Leighton's hill Road."

REMARKS.

The following additional latrines were handed over to the Board in June, 1901:— City — Sookonpoo — 18 seats; Yau Ma Tei Street, 28 seats; Matheson Street, 2 seats; Yau Ma Tei — 2 of 12 seats each. Hung Hom — 2 of 12 seats each. Shaan Kiwan — 3 of 12 seats each. Stanley — 1 of 6 seats. Aplichau — 2 of 6 seats each. To Kwawan — 1 of 2 seats. Total — 152 seats.

A latrine of six seats attached to the old Slaughter-house at West Point left standing as a public latrine.

One of 6 seats completed in 1899.

Latrine at Shek-longtsui.

1896.—It was resolved by the Board on 5th November:—"That a letter be addressed to the Colonial Secretary requesting that a latrine of 20 seats be erected at as early a date as practicable in the immediate vicinity of the existing dilapidated structure adjoining the site of the old Slaughter-house." (S. B. letter of 21st January, 1898).

Latrine at Aplichau.

1896.—It was resolved by the Board on 19th November:—"That the report (concerning the need for a properly constructed public latrine at Aplichau in lieu of a dilapidated structure now existing there) be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary, and that at the same time it be urged how necessary it is in the interest of the public health, that the construction of public latrines in suitable localities be proceeded with at as early a date as is practicable."

Latrine at Kowloon Point.

1896.—It was resolved by the Board on 17th December:—"That a letter be addressed to the Colonial Secretary pointing out the desirability of erecting at an early date a few public latrines at Kowloon Point."

Latrine at Ship Street.

S.B. Letter of November 10th, 1897.

Urinal in neighbourhood of Praya Reclamation Offices.

1897.—It was resolved by the Board on 2nd December:—"That the correspondence (having reference to the need for a public urinal in lieu of the one adjoining the Praya Reclamation Offices) be transmitted to the Colonial Secretary, with a recommendation that it be referred to the Director of Public Works to select a suitable site for the urinal; and (2) That in the opinion of the Board an underground urinal is most suitable for a public convenience of this nature in this part of the City." (S. B. letter No. 163 of December 12th 1897.)

1898.—It was resolved by the Board on 19th May:—"That the attention of the Government be invited to the representations made by the Sanitary Board in 1895 and following years, and this Board beg that provision be made in the Estimates for 1899 for at least

One of 40 seats completed, 1901.

A 20 seat latrine built.

Permission has been requested from the military authorities to construct a public urinal underneath the Parade Ground and the proposal has been submitted to the War Office.

An underground urinal was considered by the D. P. W. to be impracticable.

Ship Street latrine (20 seats) built, as already mentioned; contract for a latrine (72 seats) arranged, but had to be abandoned on account of opposition by Po Leung Kok Society.

The following amounts appear in the Estimates for—1899, \$5,000; 1900, \$5,000;

two public latrines in the City, and that vote be taken annually for this service until the wants of the City in this respect are fully met."

1893.—It was resolved by the Board on 22nd September:—"That a copy of the report of the Medical Officer of Health be forwarded to the Government, together with a request that if the Government cannot see their way to erect more than two additional public latrines next year, these two should be erected at Leighton's Hill Road and Sookonpoo instead of at Leighton's Hill Road and Kennedy Town as recommended in C. S. O. 1426/1898."

1899.—It was resolved by the Board on 13th April:—"That the Government be asked whether the work under this head (additional free public latrines) provided for at page 47 of the Estimates 'Item 12, two public latrines, \$5000,' is being carried out; and that the urgent necessity for additional latrines be pressed on the Government." (S. B. Letter No. 48 of 23rd April, 1899).

Latrine at junction of POUND Lane and Taipingshan Street.

1899.—It was resolved by the Board on 30th June:—"Latrines.—That the Board specify two sites, one at the junction of Pound Lane and Taipingshan Street for forty persons and one at the back of the Harbour Office for sixty persons, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of Ordinance 8 of 1897."

Latrines at Sookonpoo (extension).

S. B. resolution of 20th July, 1899 (approve in C. S. O. 1426/98).

1899.—It was resolved by the Board on July 20th:—"That the Sanitary Board inform the Government in accordance with Section 3 of Ordinance 8 of 1897 that it desires the erection of four public latrines on the sites named hereafter:—

(1) At the corner of Queen's Road West and Belcher's Lane East.

(2) At the junction of Shing Wong Street and Gough Street (No. 46 Gough Street).

(3) At junction of Pound Lane and Taipingshan Street.

(4) On the Praya Reclamation near the

1901, \$17,000; 1902, \$22,000.

One completed (6 seats) at Leighton's Hill, as already stated.

Minute by D. P. W. in C. S. O. 1098, 1899:—"This being one of the votes which, by order of the Secretary of State, has to stand over."

This site was objected to by the Po Leung Kuk. A latrine erected in Tank Lane in 1900 in lieu thereof. The Harbour Office site also objected to, and a latrine erected in Wing Lok Street in 1900 in lieu thereof.

Nearly completed (40 seats in all).

Completed.

Completed.

Abandoned on account of opposition.

Completed.

junction of Wing Lok Street with Praya Central."

1899.—It was resolved by the Board on 9th November:—"That the Board recommend the erection of a public latrine with 40 seats on a corner lot of Crown land in Taipingshan bounded on the west by Tank Lane and on the south by Bridges Street." (S. B. Letter No. 141 of 11th November, 1899)

1900.—It was resolved by the Board on 13th January:—"That the public urinal situated on the western boundary of the Hongkong Cricket Club Ground, which at present is an antiquated, insanitary, an obnoxious nuisance, be removed to a spot further westward and to the north of the City Hall."

1900.—It was resolved by the Board on May 10th:—"That in forwarding the report (of the Medical Officer of Health) to the Government, special attention be drawn to what is written by the Medical Officer of Health on page 2 under the heading—Public Urinals."

1900.—It was resolved by the Board on 5th July:—"That the Board recommend the Government to make provision in the Estimates for 1901 for the following urgent sanitary works:—

(1) Eight public urinals on the sites recommended by the Board in C. S. O. 1271/00.

(2) Four additional public latrines." S. B. letters of 10th June, 1896, 26th November, 1896, and 15th June, 1901.

Latrine at Corner of Western Street and Second Street

1900.—It was resolved by the Board on 19th July:—"That the Sanitary Board beg to recommend the Government to publish in the *Gazette* in English and Chinese in accordance with Ordinance 3 of 1897 the following sites upon which it is intended to erect public latrines:—

(1) On the North side of a portion of Crown land situated at the corner of Western Street and Second Street, 40 seats.

(2) On a portion of Crown Land situated at the East end of Hing Wan Street, 20 seats.

(3) On a portion of Crown land in the village of Tai Hang at the corner of Cooper

Completed (34 seats).

(Vide remarks in connection with "Urinal in neighbourhood of Praya Reclamation office.")

\$5,000 for additional urinals and \$12,000 for additional latrines provided in the Estimates for 1901. One latrine in course of construction with urinal accommodation included, two others with similar accommodation about to be undertaken and contracts being prepared for three structures containing urinals only.

\$5,000 provided for urinals.

One completed, one in progress and two about to be undertaken.

Complied with. (Vide Government Notification 399 of 1st March, 1900.)

Street and Shepherd Street, 40 seats.

(4) On a portion of Crown land abutting on Kennedy Street, Yau-mati, and lying to the north of K.I.L. 1085, 40 seats."

Brick Urinals opposite Canton Wharf.

1901.—It was resolved by the Board on 6th February:—"That the Board recommend the Government to erect a brick urinal with not less than six recesses in the immediate neighbourhood of the Canton Wharf, and that the small iron urinal be removed."

1901.—The Board agreed to recommend on 13th June that provision be made in the Estimates for 1902 for ten urinals and four latrines.

Contract being prepared. Plan approved by Board.

Provision will be made in the Estimates for 1902.

THE RECENT TROUBLES IN CHINA.

PROCLAMATION BY FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

The following English Translation of proclamation issued by the foreign Plenipotentiaries throughout Chihli is published in the *Gazette*:—

In the Spring and Summer of last year North China was the scene of grave disorders, and crimes without precedent against the laws of humanity were committed by the Boxers and Imperial troops.

On June the 11th, the Chancellor of the Japanese Legation was barbarously murdered at the Yung-ling Gate; on June the 20th the Envoy Plenipotentiary of Germany was assassinated while going to the Tsungli Yamen to transact public business; and from that day to August 14th the Legations of all the Foreign Powers at Peking were besieged and constantly attacked. At Tientsin the Foreign Concessions were bombarded for three weeks with heavy cannon, and repeatedly attacked by Imperial troops and hordes of Boxers. Both at Peking and Tientsin many were killed and wounded, and a great quantity of property owned by foreigners was wantonly destroyed. Elsewhere, and particularly in the Province of Shansi, numbers of foreigners of different nations, chiefly missionaries, were atrociously murdered, and in several places foreign cemeteries were profaned and the tombs destroyed.

The Foreign Governments concerned, as soon as they received intelligence of these doings, sent armies over sea to quell the disorders, protect their nationals and chastise the persons who were responsible. The Taku Forts, Tientsin and Pao-tung-fu, and many other places were taken by assault, and the Imperial troops and Boxers were everywhere overthrown in numerous battles and encounters, thousands of them being slain and the rest driven afar off beyond the confines of Chihli. The Princes and high officers of State guilty of participation in the crimes against foreigners have all been most severely punished, several having suffered the death penalty in accordance with the commands of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China. Provincial officials of all ranks have also been punished according to their offences.

Heavy indemnities have been rightfully imposed by all the foreign States, and all civil and military examinations have been suspended for a period of five years in the localities where foreigners were murdered or cruelly treated.

Condign punishment having thus been administered, and China moreover having expressed regrets and having promised the other reparations demanded by the Foreign Powers, friendly relations are now definitely restored, and the Foreign troops of nationalities will gradually return to their homes. Each Power will retain a permanent guard to protect its Legation; certain places between Peking and the sea will be occupied by foreign troops to preserve freedom of communication, and the Taku Forts

and all others which might impede this freedom of communication will be razed.

This Proclamation is issued by the Representatives of the Foreign Powers so that all may know the true facts connected with the coming of the Allied Forces. It is also especially necessary that Chinese officials and people should take warning from the events related and exercise extreme care to prevent any recurrence of disturbance or disorder.

THE COCHRANE STREET ENQUIRY.

On the 30th ult., Mr. Hazeland held an enquiry at the Magistracy into the causes that led to the collapse of houses Nos. 32 and 34, Cochrane Street. The first witness called was a woman, named Siu Mui who had lived in No. 32, at the time of collapse, and was rescued, but her husband, two daughters and her mother, who were also in the house at the time, were killed. She deposed as follows:—

The house No. 32 where she lived was a family house. She lived on the 3rd floor, with her husband, two daughters, and mother. There were 19 people on her floor. On the night of the 14th inst., at about 11 o'clock, houses Nos. 32 and 34 collapsed suddenly. No previous intimation was given. Houses No. 2 and 34 were four-storey houses. Her husband had been head-coolie at the Ordnance Stores.

The next witness was Inspector Cuthbert, who had made enquiries as to the people killed. He had a list of forty-one, but could only obtain the names of 38. In all the dead were 43. Two out of the three unknown persons had been visitors, and one the husband of a woman living in one of the houses. One of the visitors was a woman. Inspector Cuthbert said he was certain that the forty-three dead found were killed in the collapse.

P. S. Watt, who was the first police officer on the scene at the time, stated that on the night of the 14th inst., about 11 p.m., he was in Queen's Road facing Cochrane Street. He heard a noise as if something heavy fell down. He ran up Cochrane Street, and found that houses No. 32 and 34 had collapsed and caused the verandahs and front wall of No. 30 to fall outward. He went up into No. 30, and ordered the people to leave. While he was there, fire had broken out among the ruins of No. 32. Witness immediately gave the alarm and called for the fire brigade, who responded at once.

The next man to give evidence was Ho Heung Chi, an inmate of house No. 32, who was fortunately rescued. Witness went to his house on the evening in question and went to sleep. A friend of his, who slept in a cubicle of the 2nd floor, was killed in the collapse. As witness was sleeping he was aroused by a loud crack; the next moment the house collapsed.

Mr. P. T. Crisp, Inspector of Buildings, deposed as follows:—

On the 15th inst., I went and inspected the ruins of Nos. 32 and 34 Cochrane Street. I examined the remainder of the walls standing and the debris. I found all the floor joists and members to have been in a sound condition. The brick-work on the top floor seemed to be good work. I looked at the brick-bonding and it was good. In my opinion the cause of the collapse was the falling in of the partition wall between houses No. 32 and 34. The party wall was old work, the centre of the wall being hollow. I cannot positively say that the whole of the party wall was hollow, but there is little doubt that it was, judging from what remained standing. I think the houses were built after the great fire in 1878. In my opinion the heavy rain, soaking the double layer of Shanghai tiles, caused the consequent great weight resting on the party wall to split in two and brought on the collapse.

Dr. Bell, Assistant Principal Civil Medical Officer, stated that he had only a list of twenty-three bodies, which had been brought to the Government Mortuary on the 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, and 22nd instant. The list of the bodies previously found was in the hands of Dr. Atkinson, who would give his evidence after lunch. The list of dead, with the cases of death, was handed to His Worship by Dr. Bell.

Mr. Tooker, Acting Assistant Director of Public Works, next deposed as follows:—On the 15th inst., I examined the scene of the collapse of houses No. 32 and 34 Cochrane

Street. These buildings, as far as we could ascertain, were constructed in 1878. There is no record in the P.W.D. offices of any alterations or additions until the latter end of 1900, when a plan was submitted in accordance with the Building Ordinance, and notice given in the prescribed form on the 3rd November, 1900, in respect of house No. 32, Cochrane Street, and on the 7th December, 1900, in respect of house No. 34, Cochrane Street also in the prescribed form. Mr. E. M. Hazeland was the architect who submitted the plans. The notice of the work given on the 3rd November read as follows:—"To make additions and rebuild cross-wall and verandah." A notice of December 7th describes the work as "additions and rebuilding cross-wall, etc." Both notices were signed I Chung Tsun Cheong and Spooner. The additions spoken of consisted principally of one additional story. The buildings had been three-storied; the addition would make them four-storied. The plans submitted were scrutinised by me and found to be in accordance with the Building Ordinance and were forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health, who approved of them, saying they were in accordance with the Ordinance. The buildings were in accordance with Ordinance 15 of 1894, as this Ordinance fixes the height of buildings in accordance with the width of the street, but of course the additions were made prior to that date. I also examined the remaining standing walls and debris at the scene of the disaster. The front and side walls of Nos. 32 and 34 had fallen in; as had the front wall of No. 30. The site of the accident was covered with debris. The iron verandahs of house No. 31, opposite, were considerably damaged. I made a careful examination of the walls still standing, the party walls of Nos. 30 and 36, also of the debris. I found a portion of the party wall between houses No. 32 and 34 was still standing. It proved to have been badly constructed, though the bricks used in erecting the wall were good, still the construction was faulty, the bricks were badly bonded, part of the interior of the wall was hollow and filled out with small pieces of bricks. The wall seemed to have been all more or less hollow. The party walls between the houses No. 32 and 30 and 34 and 36 still standing were exposed to view, and could be seen to be of the same construction as the party wall which had collapsed. On examination I found it would be impossible for anybody to say definitely what actually caused the collapse, that must remain a matter of conjecture. I have, however, found out that the mischief had been going on for some time and that the showery weather we had for some time, interspersed with heavy rains, and again the fierce sun rays, would have caused a considerable amount of expansion and contraction of the material. The flooring and other timbers were found perfectly sound, and the top floor appeared to have been supported on hard-wood joists. I believe from the way the floorings were running that the party wall between Nos. 32 and 34 was the first part of the buildings to collapse. The weight resting on this wall caused it to fall, and the shock would have been quite sufficient to have brought down the whole of the two structures. I attribute the accident to the bad season and the bad state of the old brick-work of the buildings. The old Building Ordinance of 1856 places no restrictions on the use of new bricks; it only states that the wall should be solidly built.

Mr. Tooker here suggested that Mr. E. M. Hazeland, architect, be called as a witness, which was done.

Mr. E. M. Hazeland stated that some time during the months of November and December, 1900, Mr. Chung Tsun Cheong asked him to prepare some plans for additional floors and verandahs for Nos. 32 and 34, Cochrane Street. He sent one of his assistants to examine the premises, who reported that the walls were sound and plumb, and thereupon witness drew the plans for additional story in compliance with the Building Ordinance. When the plans were prepared he sent them to the P.W.D. for approval. The plans were approved, and he gave them to the owner, and told him he could have nothing to do with the superintendence of the alterations and additions of his premises.

At this point Mr. Tooker asked His Worship's permission to ask a few questions, which request was granted.

Mr. Tooker—You were formerly on assistant engineer in the P.W.D., engaged mainly in superintending the carrying out of provisions of the Building Ordinance?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Tooker—Had you the slightest suspicion that the walls were not sound, would you have drawn up the plans?

Witness—No, certainly not.

Mr. Tooker requested to be called on again, as he had another statement to make. The request was granted.

Mr. Tooker—Your Worship, in all the recent cases of house collapses which have come before you, you found that while the plans had been prepared by European architects, in each case they said that they had no power to supervise the construction. I believe in the Cochrane Street case if the work had been under the superintendence of an European architect, as soon as the roof had been removed he would have seen at once the bad state of the walls, and found it necessary to rebuild. Your Worship, section 76, sub-section 3 of Ordinance 15 of 1859, says it is permissible for any official of the P. W. D., to enter a house, building or tenement, where he has reasonable province for believing that within said house, building or tenement there are works being completed or carried out in contravention of the Building Ordinance. Again, it is permissible for a P. W. D. officer to inspect such work provided he does not unreasonably damage the same during his inspection. Section 72 of the same Ordinance says the P. W. D. has no power to refuse to approve plans for alterations or additions if in accordance with the Building Ordinance. The department can only refuse such approval if the old building is constructed in contravention of the Ordinance. This was not the case in Cochrane Street. Therefore, the plans had to be approved. No P. W. D. official has a right to break into another wall for the purposes of inspecting the soundness of it. The Department has little, if any, power to prevent such disasters, as the one now under enquiry, as the soundness of walls cannot be judged unless opened out.

At this point the enquiry was adjourned till the afternoon.

The first witness called at 2 p.m. was Dr. J. M. Atkinson, P.C.M.O., who deposed as follows:—I received on the 14th and 15th instant twenty bodies sent to the mortuary which were unearthed from the debris caused by the collapse of Nos. 32 and 34 Cochrane Street. I have given their approximate ages in the list.

This closed the enquiry, His Worship saying that he was convinced that the forty-three persons met their death through the collapse and fire of the buildings.

GRAND TATTOO AND PROMENADE CONCERT.

When it was announced that there was to be a grand tattoo and promenade concert on the Volunteer Parade Ground, expectations ran high, nor were they disappointed. The object, a benefit to the widow of the late Sergt. Williams, was a worthy one, and the Hongkong public, as well as the soldiers in garrison, responded generously. The parade ground was filled to overflowing, and was prettily illuminated with Chinese lanterns. The stage was as artistic as usual, with its palm and lantern decorations.

The programme was a lengthy one, and was much appreciated by the audience, as was testified by the applause greeting almost every item. The first item was the "First Post," followed by "British Army Quadrilles," in which were introduced the Encampment, All's Well, Patrols going the Rounds, and Camp in Motion. Then came five marches by the 3rd Madras band, massed fifes, H.K.S.B.R.A., bagpipes, and the band of the R.W.F.

The concert itself commenced with a song by the favourite comedian Mr. Viggers, in "These things are only sent to try us," which was as usual encored to the echo. The club drill, by the 2nd R.W.F., was the gem of the evening; the naval gun display by the gun crew of H.M.S. Isis was well very executed indeed, though the space in which to make the evolutions was limited. Parallel bars and vaulting the horse by the 2nd R.W.F., were followed by Sergt. Ward in a comic song. Then came the grand tattoo, in which took part

different regimental bands accompanied by E. Poy torch-bearers. It was a stirring and picturesque spectacle, rousing indescribable enthusiasm among the audience and concluding a very pleasant evening.

HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The twentieth annual general meeting of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society was held in the City Hall on Tuesday evening. The Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Vice-President, in the absence from the Colony of the President, Mr. J. MacKie, presided over a gathering of about forty gentlemen.

In his speech the CHAIRMAN, after tendering thanks for his election as Vice-President, said the finances of the Society on the 23rd ult. were slightly better this year, the net credit balance being \$2,601.28, as compared with \$2,414.60 for the year 1889-1900. The addition to the membership was as great this year as ever it had been. The Chairman referred sympathetically to the deaths of four members of the Society—Mr. John Cameron, of the Hongkong Bank, who was Captain of the local Rugby Football team Mr. A. F. Williamson, of the Chartered Bank, an energetic promoter of the annual celebration; Mr. J. Brownhill, marine superintendent of Messrs. Bradley & Company, who did yeoman service every year in decorating the rooms for the Ball; and Captain F. H. Laurie, King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, a keen supporter of polo while he resided in this Colony, and who was killed South Africa.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. W. D. GRAHAM, the Report and Account, as presented, were adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS.

On the motion of the Hon. F. H. Stewart-Loekhart, C.M.G., seconded by Mr. D. R. Law, Mr. Whitehead was elected President in place of Mr. F. McKie, resigned.

On the motion of the Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING, seconded by Mr. R. L. RICHARDSON, Mr. H. W. Robertson was elected to the office of Vice-President.

Captain G. O. ANDERSON proposed the election of Mr. D. Wood as Secretary, and of Mr. P. Dow as Treasurer. The proposal was seconded by Mr. BROWN, and carried unanimously.

THE BALL.

It was decided that St. Andrew's Day should be celebrated by a ball on Friday, 29th November.

THE RETIRING PRESIDENT.

Mr. ROBERTSON, in appropriate terms, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring President of the Society, Mr. J. MacKie, for his valuable services during his term of office. He suggested a letter to Mr. MacKie to that effect.

The CHAIRMAN seconded, and the suggestion was adopted unanimously.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

Messrs. D. R. Law, T. F. Hough, R. L. Richardson, W. D. Graham, and W. M. Kidd were elected as a Committee.

A vote of thanks to the CHAIRMAN, proposed by Mr. STEWART LOCKHART, terminated the proceedings.

The following was the report:—

During the year a number of applications for assistance from the Charitable Fund were received, and after full investigation Grants-in-aid were given in four cases, amounting in all to \$142.80. Situations were found for five more applicants, and three cases were assisted privately by members. The balance now to the credit of the Society is \$2,601.28 as against \$2,414.60 last year.

Forty-five members (including two life members) joined the Society during the year.

St. Andrew's Day, 1900, was celebrated by a ball in the City Hall, which was very successful. A Scotch concert was organised for 25th Jan., the anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, but it was abandoned at the last moment on account of the death of the Queen.

Mr. D. R. Crawford resigned the post of Hon. Treasurer on his departure for home, and your Committee specially thanked him for the excellent services he had rendered to the Society. Mr. Peter Dow has kindly undertaken the duties of Hon. Treasurer.

The Committee deeply regret to record the deaths of the following members:—Captain J. H. Laurie, The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), John Cameron, John Brownhill, and A. F. Williamson.

TONKIN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Hanoi, 27th August.

PRINCE HENRI D'ORLÉANS.

Prince Henri d'Orléans, the well known French explorer, died in Saigon Hospital after a serious operation on the liver. Prince Henri was the son of the Duke and Duchess of Chartres and the first cousin of Philippe d'Orléans, the exiled pretender. Prince Henri's death caused real excitement in France and Colonies, and the whole press has been full of praise concerning him. The Prince also was an author of merit, and the books he published are of real scientific worth. He was a member of several geographical societies.

Prince Henri was considered an Anglophile, but the view is not a just one, for the Prince on many occasions praised the intelligent and loyal nature and the colonial aptitude of the English people. The body of the Prince will be inhumed at Dreux, where the royal family has a special vault.

M. DOUMER'S RETURN.

M. Doumer, our Governor-General, has returned to Saigon and has taken over again the direction of affairs with M. de Lamethe, successor of M. Picanon, as Lieutenant-Governor of Cochin-China. The Indo-Chinese Press does not generally welcome this return, and is hoping for the next and final departure of "Paul the First"—as it derisively calls M. Doumer.

If we can rely on our informant, M. Doumer has bought the paper *La Lanterne* with a view to his next candidature as Deputy for the Aisne Department. It appears that our Governor-General wants rest and intends to abdicate his high functions at the end of the fifth year of his term. This determination will please all the Tonkinese colonists; yet perhaps they may change their one-eyed horse for a blind one! The work of M. Doumer is not certainly exempt from criticism, but in the particular situation of Indo-China it was very difficult to act to the general satisfaction. If our Governor-General to-day has numerous critics he also has his supporters. The Yunnan and Indo-Chinese railway schemes and the numerous colonial and administrative reforms, the principal features of M. Doumer's policy, necessitate new and heavy taxes. It is this point which has dissatisfied the colonists, especially the Tonkinese. We must not, however, forget the adage: *Errare humanum est*. M. Doumer has committed errors, but has obtained a few happy results. Will his successor act better?

NATIVE OFFICIAL PECULATIONS.

In his declarations during his sojourn in France, M. Doumer has asserted the ever increasing riches of Indo-China, and given as proof the progress in the produce from taxation. In France where nobody can control the assertions of our Governor, who has inquired into the causes of this progress? Public opinion in the metropolis wants to be enlightened in the matter. The truth is, every year taxation becomes more heavy for the natives. M. Doumer has returned here with many projects, and consequently with many new financial combinations. Where and when will this stream stop? To show the odious side of this system it is necessary to state that the Annamite officials collect the taxes, and exploit the villagers to their own profit. The French authorities know of these acts, which take place in the Colony daily and everywhere. French prestige will not bear this odious exploitation of the natives by their hierarchical officials or chiefs. If the present produce of taxation is not sufficient, it is necessary to watch very strictly the mode of tax-collection and to exact from Annamite officials the full payment of what they receive. There is a moral obligation for France to intervene.

THE FRANCO-TURKISH DIFFICULTY.

The Havas telegram announcing the diplomatic rupture with Turkey has caused no excitement in the Colony. The Indo-Chinese Press has not yet commented on the event.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

The appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Marchand as *chef d'état-major* of the French Brigade in China has been welcomed in the Colony, where Lieutenant-Colonel Marchand has numerous friends and admirers.

General Sacillon is also very well known here. He commanded several years ago in the military district of Laos and showed in the discharge of a delicate function a great deal of administrative and military aptitude.

A WRECK.

There is a rumour that a cargo-boat, carrying an important load of stable materials and rolling stock for the Tonkin railways, has been wrecked near Cape Gardafui, opposite Aden, and is completely lost. The news is not, however, confirmed.

AN ENGINEER HONOURED.

In the recent *Légion d'Honneur* list we note the name of M. Pillé, who is appointed officer of the order. M. Pillé is the distinguished engineer of Darde, Pillé and Co., from Creil, who were commissioned to throw across the Red River and Gia Sam Marshes the 1800-metre bridge which is to be called "Pont Doumer."

Hanoi, 1st September.

M. DOUMER'S RETURN.

M. Doumer is probably dissatisfied with his reception at Saigon. It has been given him to compare between the enthusiasm in France at the meetings organised in his honour and the glacial welcome he got from the Saigonese population, interpreter of all French people in Indo-China. M. Picanon was followed to the M.M. steamer by all the Saigonese and respectfully saluted at the departure of the boat. Except few officers and officials, there by order, no colonist was present at the return of our Governor-General. His passage into Cotinât Street, at the hour of "*apéritif*," when many people were assembled on the terraces, provoked no salute. An hostile reception even was feared, for numerous policemen were everywhere about the town and seemed to have very strict orders. Indifference is more significant; moreover, a manifestation, though allowed in France, is not tolerated in Indo-China because of the presence of the natives, before whom it is necessary to keep to ourselves our sentiments and to appear to respect the first French magistrate of the Colony.

DEATH OF A DISTINGUISHED ANNAMITE.

During the last few days there died at Hanoi an Annamese mandarin, well known by all the French residents. Ba-ho-kim was a fine old man, of majestic aspect, with a white beard, always scrupulously dressed. He rendered many services to the French cause, and Paul Bert esteemed him very much. He formerly was a councillor on the Hanoi Municipal Assembly and a member of the Consultative Committee of native nobilities established by Paul Bert and now suppressed. He attained the fifth rank of civil mandarindom. Proprietor of several houses in Paul Bert Street, he left a very large fortune to his three sons. His obsequies took place to-day and were very splendidly celebrated.

AN ABUSE OF AUTHORITY.

A few days ago the Hanoi Chamber of Commerce energetically protested against the injury to trade caused by obstructive action on all the launches running to Laos for the needs of the military and civil administrations. The Chamber very logically asked for a reserved place on board for goods of local traffic. This wish has not been taken into consideration, and the situation remains the same. A certain tradesman three weeks ago announced to some customers that he was sending a box, fifty pounds in weight. He has come to the wharf every Saturday morning and has been invariably told to come again, as the launch is completely full with objects destined for the military and civil administrations of the Laos district, and special missions into Yunnan province. This abuse of authority causes indignation.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Paris *Figaro* has sent to Indo-China to enquire for the notes of Captain Bernard on French colonisation in Cochin-China, Annam, and Tonkin. The notes collected by the French journalist cannot fail to contain important and interesting revelations. The Indo-Chinese Press generally applauds the Paris paper for its intelligent initiative.

Five days ago the body of a native was found in the water at Cua-Cam by the Customs tide-waiters. He had a large wound in the groin, and a rope was around his neck. The police are enquiring about this crime, which has caused no little excitement in the Colony.

M. Martin's murderers are not yet all caught, but M. de Mahé, the Bac-Ninh President and Police Inspector Lambert are expecting to get at them in a very short time.

Dr. Le Lan, a candidate at the Délégation elections, is now in High Tonkin, studying questions interesting to the Colony. Dr. Le Lan meets with a great deal of success and a cordial welcome.

PEKING.

Peking, 16th August.

Yesterday, much to the surprise of many, the subsequent Protocol was signed by the Ministers. Separate copies for each Legation are to be made out to be signed by all the Ministers, with the two Chinese Plenipotentiaries. This new Protocol stated how the twelve points of the original Protocol have been carried out or how agreed to be carried out. The article relating to regulations on commerce—to new commercial treaties—waits future developments. The matter of metropolitan examinations is left in the hazy condition of stating that examinations are forbidden in Peking. Whether they will be held or not; whether they will be held in some other city like Nanking, or the Ministers hereafter yield to the persuasion that provincial examinations—those of second degree—be excluded from Peking, but the metropolitan examination—that of the third degree—be allowed, is left for the future to disclose. The matter of punishments is delayed in many cases. Most of the provincial officials sentenced to decapitation have escaped punishment, notably Pao Taotai of Chünchou, and the Ministers seem very willing to overlook the omission. Others ordered to be degraded or punished have likewise escaped their deserts, and there is no telling when or how the Ministers will compel the Chinese Government to execute the demands of Foreign Ministers or even the demands, milder in a few cases, of Imperial edicts.

The destruction of the forts is not yet fully executed. The matter of indemnity is agreed to, but money will not be forthcoming for some time. Still the Ministers are successful in getting the promise of such a large sum as Tls. 450,000,000—large when corruption is allowed to remain and financial reforms are passed by. When the first instalment will actually be made, we dare not affirm. Sir Robert Hart is reported as saying that it could not be paid as early as January, the semi-annual limit. The floods over the country, especially in the richest provinces, will make the raising of "war funds" and meeting "foreign claims," most difficult to effect. Let us see whether foreign Powers are to be congratulated four months later on!

The delay in signing the Protocol was due, it is said, to minor points raised by Sir Ernest Satow, after supposed agreement. The matter of the formation of the commission to direct the Whangpoo conservancy was one point needing more light. The matter of commission for making commercial treaties was a more important point needing light. Who should destroy the forts, Chinese or foreigners, or whether any of the forts should be left intact, but dismantled, that needed light. The call for light will be frequent before we hear the last of the Protocol!

Owing to delay in signing the Protocol, there has been some delay in evacuating. General Cough who has been conferring with Sir Ernest Satow, has left to-day for Tientsin. The 7th Rajputs leave on the 9th and 21st. The 16th Bengal Lancers leave, probably on the 26th. The artillery will not leave till some time in September, meanwhile occupying the Summer Palace and the Temple of Heaven, which were supposed to be handed over to the Chinese by the present time. Part of the Welsh Fusiliers will move from the palace of Prince Cheng to the Summer Palace, and part to the barracks at the Legation. The Welsh Fusiliers with a part of the 12th battery constitute the Legation guard under the command of Major Everett.

The Italians and Japanese are awaiting the British to evacuate. Need anyone be surprised if the Chinese are puzzled as to evacuation? If foreigners are so uncertain, small wonder if the Court remains uncertain.

* Major Conger, or Dr. Conger as he may now be called, has arrived to-day. He left for the States just after reaching a settlement on the eleven great officials to be punished, and he returns just after the signing of the enlarged Protocol by Mr. Rockhill. Mr. and Mrs. Rockhill are now leaving for home. They have been courteously provided with a cruiser by the French, to take them from Taku to Yokohama.

A special service was held this morning at the Peit'ang (North Cathedral) in commemoration of its relief a year ago. The French Legation was represented, and French and Italian officers were present, in memory of their brave colleagues who defended the place for just two months last year. A large number of Catholic converts attended with far different feelings from the 3,000 of their number last year. How much more creditable was this service than the indifference of Protestants, especially the British of the Legation and the military—N.C. Daily News.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the P. & T. Times of the 24th ult.:—

The famine is still raging in Shansi, and many continue to die of want.

Wu Ting-fang's ambassadorship to Washington has been extended for another three years.

Jung Lu is reported to have applied to be Viceroy of Shansi and Kansu, but the Empress Dowager has not as yet agreed.

A Chinese was shot by an Italian soldier a few days ago, the excuse being that the man threw a brick at the sentry.

The body of a German soldier floated down river the other day from Yangtsun, several bullet wounds being found on the corpse.

About 1,000 Russian troops went from Newchwang to Port Arthur by sea during the heavy rains, as the trains were unable to run.

The districts from Fung Huang-chang to Antung are all under Russian martial law now and the "brigands" are at present at a discount.

Several cases of ammunition being discovered have occurred lately, in some cases the discovery bringing to light a score or two of new modern rifles.

The Plenipotentiaries have asked the Foreign Ministers to prohibit foreign merchants selling salt in Peking, and it is believed that the matter will be arranged.

A Chinese recently arrived from Kansu reports that the Mahomedans in that province are all ripe for rebellion, but a preliminary attempt made already had been suppressed.

Many Chinese are arguing that a poll tax of \$1 per head per year on all males would free the Government from debt within ten years, and some are urging the adoption of this course.

The left half of No. 2 Company Bombay Sappers and Miners arrived from Peking on the 18th instant and was taken on the strength of the garrison—total 85 including 7 servants and followers.

The Je Je states that news has been received from Newchwang to the effect that the French are trying to arbitrate in the matter of the Customs revenue there that 20 per cent. go to China and 80 per cent. to Russia.

Messrs. McClure and Wallace, an American and British both in the employ of Messrs. Bush Bros., Newchwang, were arrested by the Russians for carrying sporting guns, but were released on their respective Consuls making a stir about it.

The Plenipotentiaries have telegraphed to Yuan Shikai to go at once to Peking with as many troops as he can spare. The ostensible reason is to act as an escort to the Court. Yuan has promised to go as soon as his mourning will admit.

News reached Peking on the 10th instant that a German had been shot at Shan Chia-tien by a band of robbers on the previous day. Shan Chia-tien is about 50 li from Peking in the Western Hills. The murdered man's name is yet unknown. The German Minister is now investigating the case.

Two R. W. F. privates are to be tried by court-martial on Monday next, the charge against them being theft. One day last week the men are stated to have decamped with the Treasury chest from their barracks, and concealed themselves in the Native City. They were discovered through trying to cash a cheque in connection with which some irregularity was detected.

A very important point is likely to come up for discussion between the Provisional Government and the Chinese Government soon, if what is reported proves true. It is stated that the Taotai at Kwei-hwa-chun, on the Kalgan road, acting presumably under Li's order, has been collecting there the 24 per cent. duty usually paid on incoming produce at the Tientsin barrier, and thereby defrauding the P.G. revenue. If the duty has to be paid again here, this new manoeuvre will affect trade seriously.

Another daring attack was made on the river police a few nights ago. The police hailed a passing junk and demanded it to stand by. The order was refused, the junkmen shouting that the police could follow and board her if they liked. The police then fired into the air to intimidate the men, in reply to which they were astonished to receive a volley, the Italian in command being severely wounded, the shot passing through his arm and into his body. From the nature of the volley and general conduct of the junk it was suspected foreigners were on board. The bullets found were of German manufacture.

A committee of officers, composed as under, will assemble at the Office of the Provost Marshal in the Gordon Hall, at 11.0 a.m., on Saturday the 24th August, to draw up a scheme for the sanitation of the British Settlement:—President—Major Reid, R.A.M.C. Members—Capt. Cleveland, I.M.S., Capt. P. Drake-Brockman, D.A.Q.M.G., Capt. Fane, Provost Marshal, C.C.O. The officers commanding detachment 2nd Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers and Hongkong Regiment will also detail an officer to attend the Committee.

COREA.

Chemulpo, 18th August.

BORDER TROUBLES.

People reading the telegraphic news relating to this country in your columns, would conclude that the Hermit Nation is normally one of the most disturbed realms on the face of the earth, while the truth is that with the exception of an occasional riot of small importance here and there, the country remains in a state of placid tranquillity, not to say stagnation, from one year's end to the other and throughout its entire length and breadth. For instance, there was the little flare-up recently at Quelpart, but as I informed you at the time, it was quickly suppressed and is now almost forgotten. Then there have been the troubles reported from the northern frontier; but judging from information received from travellers who have lately visited the districts affected, I am inclined to think that the accounts which have been published of this border fighting have been much exaggerated. It is true that Korean troops have been sent north to strengthen the border defences, but this step would have been necessitated in any case by the Russian military operations in Manchuria, which have driven a number of marauders and homeless people towards our frontiers. These refugees, mischievous or otherwise, the Korean Government very naturally wished to exclude, and hence they despatched troops to the frontier; but so far, scarcely anything in the way of actual fighting has taken place. There has been nothing, at all events, to disturb the general peace of Korea.

FOOD PROSPECTS.

Other disturbing and generally untruthful reports to which I must take exception, are those (emanating as a rule from Japanese sources) relating to the prospects of a famine in Korea in the coming autumn and winter. Korea is not even threatened with anything in the shape of an absolute scarcity of food. The wheat and barley crops have been splendid this year, and I think I may prophesy a full crop of beans in their proper season. With regard to rice, it will not perhaps be as abundant as was expected earlier in the year, but the harvest cannot by any means be a failure. The fact that the export of rice was

forbidden by the Government does not indicate any real prospective scarcity, and is rather to be explained by the desire of the Government to checkmate the enterprising merchants from the Land of the Rising Sun who had arranged a pretty little scheme to dorrall the entire crop as well as secure control of the stock stored up in the Government granaries.

RAIN.

it is true, has been plentiful enough for the farmers in certain parts of the country, but this does not apply to the whole of Corea. In the fourteen rice-growing districts it has been quite abundant, and in other regions the downfall has been excessive. But whatever may be said about rain, no one can complain of any lack of heat in Corea this year. It has been of the sultriest seasons on record, and generally speaking, the night temperature has equalled that of the daytime.

We were visited here lately by a JAPANESE CRUISING SQUADRON, consisting of nine fine ships, amongst which were two of the largest and latest turned out of the English dockyards. Although their crews have been allowed to come ashore freely, I am happy to say that they have behaved in a quiet and orderly manner, which speaks much in favour of Japanese discipline, and contrasts very brightly with the experience we had when the British squadron was here.

The foreign community of Seoul suffered a SEVERE LOSS recently in the lamented death of Mr. W. de Flon Hutchison, of which you will doubtless have been advised ere this. The deceased gentleman was formerly Head Master of the Anglo-Corean College, and had more recently occupied the position of General Agent of the British Mining Company. He has left many sincere friends behind in this country, as was testified at his funeral which was attended practically by the entire European community in Seoul, and a host of friends who went up specially from Chemulpo to render their last tribute of respect to the memory of one they esteemed so highly.—*Mercury*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE FOOD COMMISSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
29th August.

SIR,—I think the over-burdened taxpayers of Hongkong would esteem it a great favour if he Hon. T. H. Whitehead at the next meeting of the Legislative Council would ask the Government what practical effect has been given to the recommendations of the Food Commission, made known several months ago. Apparently this question of vital importance to so many has, like a good many other things, been shelved by the powers that be. It is hardly necessary for me to point out that at the present moment things as they stand spell ruin to the poor, and anything calculated to remove the burden from their shoulder should be heartily welcomed, and receive the best consideration of those who are empowered to ameliorate the present disgraceful condition of affairs. Apologising for having trespassed on your space.—Yours, etc.,

QUERY.

PORTUGUESE CLERKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
3rd September.

SIR,—In Enclosure 2, Notes on Recommendations of Salaries Committee, published in Saturday's *Gazette*, I noticed a most uncalled for remark, or rather a gratuitous insinuation, made by Mr. May, as Acting Colonial Secretary, against the Portuguese in general. On page 1,502 of the said *Gazette*, relating to the Post Office Dept., in the second paragraph, Mr. May said:—"Portuguese clerks are as a class (the italics are mine) careless, inaccurate, and inclined to idleness." This is a most irrelevant insult on the part of Mr. May, and if he wished to impute such insinuations against the clerks of the Post Office (who are of different nationalities, not Portuguese only) he should not take

it for granted that all the Portuguese are classified as he did. It is said the Portuguese community consider this as an insult, and they are quite justified. Why, may I ask, has a Portuguese been made Superintendent of the Registration Branch of the Post Office? If the Portuguese are in accordance with Mr. May's opinion, why were they and why are they still mostly employed in all the Government Departments, and nearly all the local mercantile firms, a good many of them occupying responsible positions, and others after a good number of years of faithful service now enjoying well earned pensions. If the Portuguese are so regarded by Mr. May only, we are convinced they are not so by the impartial foreign community at large.

Sir Thomas Jackson, Mr. Shewan, and others too numerous to mention, will conscientiously contradict Mr. May's statement, for they all know what their clerks are worth. And you, Mr. Editor, what do you think of your Portuguese staff? We are surprised that Sir Henry Blake should have allowed such a document to be passed unnoticed and did not have Mr. May's unbecoming remarks modified to a certain extent.

We hope, Mr. Editor, you will endorse the feelings of the Portuguese community, and grant a space in your columns to the above protest.

IMPARCIAL.

4th September.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
SIR,—The Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., is making himself more and more objectionable to all sorts and conditions of men in this Colony, his latest attack being on the poor hard-working and law-abiding Portuguese clerks. As a rule I seldom to take the trouble to read the *Government Gazette*, as I find little that interests me there, but your correspondent "Imparcial" first drew my attention to the Salaries Committee. I fully endorse your correspondent's opinion on the subject, and consider Mr. May's uncalled-for remarks as a gross and gratuitous insult to the Portuguese clerks in this Colony in general. What makes his opinion more serious for the Portuguese clerks is that it was published in an official *Gazette*. It is thus more apt to create a very wrong impression as regards the real merits of the Portuguese clerks in general, and it behoves the Consul of that community also to officially protest and to remove this impression. Fortunately, however, this is merely the opinion of one man, who is biased, and who like all other men is liable to err. Mr. May no doubt estimated the average ability of the Portuguese clerks in general by the little experience he has of certain very underpaid clerks, little more than boys, who through sheer necessity are obliged to take employment to earn a pittance. It is very unfair to draw conclusions therefrom. In my opinion (and, Mr. Editor, I have had a good deal to do with this class of our cosmopolitan community), the Portuguese clerks are as a rule a very steady, accurate, hard-working and intelligent lot of men; in fact they are exactly contrary to what Mr. May thinks of them. They have beside one good point, which is sobriety. Of course, like every other nation in the world, there are black sheep in the fold, but as clerks in general they are indubitably a reliable and submissive lot, and it is really a display of bad taste on the part of Mr. May that he should needlessly run down a good and quiet section of the community, one who was held in high esteem and respect by the first settlers and the older British and foreign community of this Colony.—Yours, etc.,

A FRIEND OF PORTUGUESE CLERKS.

[We have received other letters on the same subject—Ed. D. P.]

CHINESE MUSIC FOR HONGKONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
4th September.

SIR,—Following the example of the Rev. E. J. Hardy, I will preface my complaint with an illustration—"Some time ago the officers of one of our warships entertained a high Chinese official, and thought a selection of music by the ship's amateur band would be appreciated. Before commencing the programme the band

spent some time in tuning and testing their instruments, much to the annoyance of the ship's officers. After the completion of the performance, the guest was asked how he liked Western music, and replied that he was delighted with the first piece. Instructions were given to the bandmaster to repeat it. He did so, but it was not the one specially liked. After repeating the whole programme and not satisfying their guest, the bandmaster (evidently a keen judge of Chinese tastes) thought it must be the discordant sound of tuning, &c., that appealed to the native ear. He gave instructions to his men to tune up until they bust—either their wind or the instruments—and the hosts were more surprised than gratified at the appreciation of their guest, for at last he heard again the music that had touched him."

I am living at the Hongkong Hotel, and in weather like that we have had recently, enjoy nothing better than a quiet evening on the verandah. At present that is impossible, for the evenings are made hideous by shrill incessant music proceeding from a native tea-house somewhere in the neighbourhood of d'Aguilar Street. It is not much to ask that the European centre of the town be kept free from nuisances of this description, and my only wonder is that complaints have not been made before, or the particular establishment been assisted to "collapse." Steamers are fined for blowing their whistles, and yet our evenings are made hellish (I use the only word that can fully express my feelings, for Chinese music could not have had a terrestrial origin) and no objection made by the powers that be. Let the natives have their music and fun by all means, but keep it at a respectable distance from the luckless white man whose troubles in this benighted place are sufficiently hard to bear without being distracted nightly by such a pandemonium. If the steam pile-drive and foundry at Wanchai rendered an action at law justifiable, there is surely a case here for the Hotel Directors and others residing in the vicinity. In Shanghai (that much-quoted place) coolies are prosecuted for shouting unnecessarily in the streets. We could not expect such radical measures here, but we have a right to claim that reasonable precautions be taken to ensure peace and quietness.

As an outsider, I have no idea how these licences are granted, but the most unimaginative individual should see that the boundary line of natives and foreigner is not a fit place for a native sing-song.

As I write, 10.30 p.m., a bell is tolling, but whether a fire-bell or part of the performance I cannot say.—Yours, etc.,

DISTRACTED.

PARSEES AND CRICKET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
5th September.

SIR,—In view of the approaching cricket season and the Interport Cricket Carnival, for which preparations are going on in right earnest, it may interest your sporting readers to know that a private telegram has been received from Bombay announcing the success of the representative Parsee XI against the Bombay Presidency Team. The constitution of the opposing teams is worth noting. Cricket is a very popular game in India, and in Bombay especially. There are in Bombay among the devotees of this national English game many distinguished players, Englishmen, other Europeans, Hindus, Mahomedans, and Parsees. Next to Englishmen the Parsees have made their name as cricketers. It is an acknowledged fact in the cricket world of all India that the Bombay Parsee cricketers are the best bowlers in Bombay and the smartest fielders in all India. So much so that the Bombay Parsee cricketers were considered invincible. They won all sorts of local and other matches. They have been about three times to England with varied success. Lord Hawke some years ago brought out a team to play, *inter alia*, a Parsee XI at Bombay and a return match at Poona. In both contests Lord Hawke got a sound beating. Lord Harris, no mean exponent of this manly game, happened about this time to be the Governor of Bombay. His Lordship it was who first conceived and carried out the idea of opposing a combined team chosen from all the various parts of the Bombay Presidency, including some of the crack bats and bowlers among English

civilian and military cricketers. Every year in the middle of August a three days' match is fixed to be played between the Presidency team and the Parsees. Saturday is always the last day of the match, and if a visitor were passing by the cricket ground that afternoon he would simply be astounded to see an orderly throng of some 12,000 to 15,000 spectators enjoying the friendly battle. The Presidency team for many years included such a renowned bat as Captain Greig, whom your sporting correspondent referred to only the other day. To tell the truth, Captain Greig was a terror to the Parsee eleven. Once, in a true sportsmanlike spirit, the Parsee Captain presented Greig with a bat in token of the remembrance of the huge trouble he gave them in getting him out. He was the recognised century bat of the Presidency team. The Parsee team also boast of a century bat, Gagrut, a surname signifying "thunder." In the last Presidency Parsee match under notice the latter had another advantage. Their team was captained by Dr. Pavri, a Parsee medical practitioner who has recently returned to Bombay from England. He is also one of the prides of Parsee cricketers. He cannot of course be compared to that incomparable Hindoo Prince of Cricketers, Ranji. But he is a Ranji in another sense. As a captain of his team he stands unapproached. He is universally acknowledged to be a captain of sound and unflinching judgment. Put in any batsman you like and see how he guides and controls the field rendering it not only difficult but highly risky for any unwary batsman to make runs. It is almost a matter for pity that the local cricket authorities have not cast their eyes beyond the Straits. If it was possible to arrange for a three days' match between a Bombay Parsee eleven and an Interport eleven, to be played in Hongkong, it might prove a treat that Hongkong could not easily forget. A Parsee team might not find it difficult to come out here. Our local sportsman, Mr. H. N. Mody, the leader of the Parsee community here, may be trusted to arrange for the reception and accommodation of such team. Nearer home we have already a Parsee cricket club here, the present members of which are too modest to seek comparison with their Bombay brothers, but there are among them some who might well be tried in the local team for the coming interport contest; or failing that, a match during the ensuing season might be arranged between an XI of the Hongkong Cricket Club and another of the Hongkong Parsee Cricket Club.—Yours, etc.,

PARSEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
6th September.

SIR,—I have read with interest the correspondence which appears in your to-day's issue under the heading "Parsees and Cricket" by a Parsee. Leaving aside the suggestions which your correspondent has made, allow me to point out a slight mistake which must have crept in through inadvertence. As eyewitness of the matches played between Lord Hawke's Team and the Parsees, the latter were victorious by several wickets in the first match only, while in the return match which was played also at Bombay (and not at Poona, as your correspondent states) the Parsees were beaten by 7 or 8 runs. I cannot here give the exact particulars of the scores made by the respective teams, as the matches referred to were played some years ago, but I can state with ample certainty that the Parsees won the first and lost the return match. As a matter of fact two English representative cricket teams have visited India. The first was brought out by Mr. Vernon a couple of years before Lord Hawke brought out his team, and in the two matches played between Vernon's Team and the Parsees, the latter were in both victorious. I therefore presume that whilst writing your correspondent may probably have had the latter facts in his mind, but instead of using Vernon's name he used that of Lord Hawke.—Yours, etc.,

R. B. C.

The following appointment has been made at the Admiralty:—Commander G. W. W. Dawes, to the *Tumgar* (N), for Hongkong Yard, to date 26th August.

QUEEN VICTORIA MEMORIAL FUND.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

Amount already subscribed ..	\$17,785
Imperial Maritime Customs ..	3,500
H'kong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	500
E. Pabany ..	500
S. J. David & Co.	250
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steam-boat Co., Ltd.	250
Dennys & Bowley ..	250
Union Insurance Society of Canton	250
China Traders Insurance Co., Ltd.	250
Siemssen & Co.	250
Melchers & Co.	250
Arnhold Karberg & Co.	250
Carlowitz & Co.	250
Meyer & Co.	250
Benjamin, Kelly & Potts ..	200
Abdoolally Ebrahim & Co.	200
Government Medical Department, per Dr. J. M. Atkinson ..	184.20
Cawasjee Pallanjee & Co.	150
N. Mody & Co.	150
A. M. Essabhoj ..	150
Talati & Co.	150
Tata & Co.	150
P. W. D., per W. Chatham ..	128
Sperry Flour Co.	100
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J. J. dos Remedios & Co.	100
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B. F. Talati & Co.	100
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Chs. J. Gaupp & Co.	100
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East Asiatic Trading Co.	100
Jebson & Co.	100
T. H. Whitehead ..	100
John Thurburn ..	100
A. & S. Hancock ..	100
W. J. Saunders ..	100
H. A. Ritchie ..	100
Hongkong Hotel Co.	100
Turner & Co.	100
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Bishop of Victoria ..	50
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Lamke & Rogge ..	50
J. H. Cox ..	50
E. Osborne ..	50
A. Esmaljee ..	50
H. E. Elias ..	50
A. Chee & Co.	50
R. B. Moorhead ..	25
J. C. Peter ..	25
Brewer & Co.	25
Kuhn & Komor ..	25
A. J. Gomes ..	25
F. A. Gomes ..	25
T. Sercombe Smith ..	20
H. K. Holmes ..	15
A. Sharp ..	15
Dr. Clark ..	10
"An Alien" ..	10
H. F. Carmichael ..	10
G. C. Anderson ..	10
F. T. Johnson ..	10
W. H. Percival ..	10

\$28,507.20

Further subscriptions will be gladly received by the undersigned, addressed to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

C. P. CHATER, } Hon. Treas.
T. JACKSON, }

The Austrian Consul, Mr. Pisko, is leaving Shanghai for good. He has gone in the Austrian cruiser *Aspern* to Corea and will return to Shanghai in a few weeks, after which he goes home and will be replaced by Mr. Kutschera, formerly Consul at Hongkong and now at Yokohama.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 3rd September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH.
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

LEUNG KUN YAU v. HON. F. H. MAY.

Leung Kun Yau, alias Leung A Su, sued the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Captain-Superintendent of Police, for damages of £100, which, under Statute 31, Car. II, C 2, entitled "An Act for better securing the Liberty of the Subject," the defendant has forfeited to the plaintiff, he being on the 14th August last detained in the custody of the police and grieved by the defendant's refusal and neglect against the form of the said Statute to deliver to the plaintiff's solicitors, after demand then made by them on his behalf upon the defendant, a copy of the warrant, authority or order whereunder the plaintiff was so detained. The plaintiff, who also sued for costs, reduced his claim to \$1,000 in order to bring it within the jurisdiction of the Court.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at law (instructed by Mr. K. W. Mounsey, solicitor), appeared on behalf of the plaintiff, and the Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Acting Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), represented the defendant.

Mr. Sharp, in opening, said the action was brought under the Habeas Corpus Act, Section 5, and the facts of the case were these: About the beginning of July or the end of June the plaintiff was convicted upon a charge of larceny, and upon other charges, and imprisoned until 14th August. On 1st August, whilst still suffering imprisonment, a banishment order was made against the plaintiff allowing him until 15th or 16th August to leave the Colony—practically within two days after the expiration of his term of imprisonment. The plaintiff was meanwhile to remain in the custody of the police. On 14th August, at eight o'clock in the morning, the plaintiff was discharged from prison, and immediately re-arrested under the banishment order. On the same morning Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton, solicitors, were instructed to apply for a writ of *habeas corpus* on the ground that the plaintiff was a British subject and that therefore the banishment order made against him was illegal. A copy of the warrant was required, and Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton accordingly wrote to the Captain Superintendent of Police, telling him the purpose for which the copy was required. The Captain Superintendent of Police replied, definitely refusing to give the plaintiff's solicitors a copy of the warrant. That refusal constituted and completed the first offence under Section 5—the offence with regard to which proceedings had been taken. Later in the day—14th August—Mr. Mounsey went to the Police Station and saw Mr. May. He requested a copy of the warrant, and again, this time verbally, Mr. May refused to supply a copy. This refusal, Mr. Sharp pointed out to his Lordship, constituted the second offence, but it was not intended to proceed thereon. Eventually a writ of *habeas corpus* was granted, and on 17th August the plaintiff was discharged on the ground that he was a natural-born British subject, and that therefore the warrant was illegal. The question, the sole question, for his Lordship to decide was whether the plaintiff was entitled to a copy of the warrant.

Mr. Mounsey was called. He stated, in reply to Mr. Sharp—On the morning of the 14th August the plaintiff's mother came to the office and told me that her son was to be deported that day, in the afternoon. She had been to the office two or three days before that, and told me she had heard that her son was to be deported as soon as the sentence he was then undergoing expired.

Mr. Sharp—Did you know when his sentence was to expire?

Mr. Mounsey—I did not know at the time, but I understood it was to expire on the 16th. I prepared the necessary papers, so far as I was able, to apply for a writ of *habeas corpus*, and I prepared an affidavit by the plaintiff's mother, one by his aunt, and one for himself. On 14th August I had the necessary papers

ready, and between half-past nine and ten o'clock I wrote a letter to Mr. May asking him to supply me with a copy of the banishment order.

Mr. Sharp—Is that the letter (produced)?

Mr. Mounsey—Yes.

Mr. Sharp—After sending that letter, what did you do next?

Mr. Mounsey—After that I had the declarations by the mother and aunt filed, and arranged that Mr. Jones should come up to the gaol with me so as to take the plaintiff's declaration. I went up about a quarter of an hour or so before Mr. Jones, so as not to waste any time, and went into the gaol and asked for Leung Kun Yau to be sent down. They told me they had not kept the prisoner, and that he was in the custody of the police.

His Lordship—He was not in gaol?

Mr. Mounsey—No. So far as they were concerned he had been discharged that morning. I went straight from the gaol to the office of the Captain Superintendent of Police. I saw Mr. May, and I asked him if he had received a letter from me that morning. He said yes, and that he had replied to it. I asked him if he was going to supply me with a copy of the banishment order.

Mr. Sharp—You had not received this reply?

Mr. Mounsey—No, but I received it when I got back to the office.

The letter was put in.

Mr. Sharp—What about the interview with Mr. May?

Mr. Mounsey—I asked him whether he was going to supply us with a copy, and he said no. I asked then whether Leung Kun Yau had had a copy supplied to him, and he said—"No, we do not supply them with copies. The warrant is read over to them," or words to that effect. I asked—"Will you supply us with a copy?" and he said—"No, I won't. You can see it if you like, but I won't give you a copy." That ended the interview.

Mr. Sharp—When was the application made for the writ of *habeas corpus*?

Mr. Mounsey—Two o'clock on the same day.

Mr. Sharp—Did the defendant at any time let you have a copy of this warrant?

Mr. Mounsey—No.

Mr. Sharp—When did the defendant make his return to the writ?

Mr. Mounsey—Three days later—on the Saturday morning.

Mr. Sharp—And what was the result?

Mr. Mounsey—That the plaintiff was a natural-born British subject, and he was discharged.

Cross-examined by Mr. Pollock, Mr. Mounsey said he first saw the plaintiff in the matter in the charge-room at the Magistracy.

Mr. Pollock—Before that you had no communication with him directly at all?

Mr. Mounsey—No.

Mr. Pollock—And so all you did then was simply to take a declaration and interpret it to him in the presence of Mr. Jones?

Mr. Mounsey—That was all.

Mr. Pollock—You did not take instructions from him personally?

Mr. Mounsey—No; from his mother, on his behalf.

Mr. Pollock—May I ask when you first became aware of the provisions of this Statute in respect of which the plaintiff is now suing for £100?

Mr. Mounsey—On the 17th—the Saturday morning.

Mr. Pollock—At the interview with Mr. May, did he say—"I do not see that I should do what I am not obliged to?"

Mr. Mounsey—He may have said so; I don't remember.

Mr. Pollock—Did you say, in answer to that, "I don't wish you to do what you are, not obliged to do?"

Mr. Mounsey—No, I do not remember saying that at all.

Mr. Pollock—Did Mr. May offer to let you look at the writ?

Mr. Mounsey—Yes, but I declined.

Mr. Pollock—Why?

Mr. Mounsey—There was no earthly use in looking at it. I wanted a copy.

Mr. Pollock—What did you want a copy for?

Mr. Mounsey—To attach to the declaration of the plaintiff.

Mr. Pollock—Did you tell Mr. May on the 14th August that this man was a British subject?

Mr. Mounsey—I believe I did, but I can't be sure of it.

Mr. Sharp—Did you withdraw your demand in any way in that interview with Mr. May?

Mr. Mounsey—No.

Mr. Sharp here pointed out to his Lordship that it was not intended to reflect in the simplest degree upon Mr. May's zealousness or intentions, nor was it suggested that he was aware—that he remembered that morning that the Act existed. In Mr. Sharp's opinion there might be a large number of admissions of fact that would shorten the case.

Mr. Pollock—I would submit there is nothing at all for us to answer in this matter. I will call Mr. May to question him on one or two points, and then I will address your Lordship.

His Lordship—It seems more a matter for legal discussion.

Mr. May was called, and gave evidence regarding his refusal to supply Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton with a copy of the banishment order. It was not until the evening of the 10th August that the defendant heard it suggested that the plaintiff was a natural-born British subject.

Mr. Pollock—Mr. Mounsey did not tell you on the 14th that the man was a natural-born British subject?

Mr. May—He did not indicate in any way what was the ground for the writ of *habeas corpus*. I didn't ask him, and he didn't tell me.

Mr. Sharp—Were you aware of a similar application being made to your deputy for a copy of this order on the following day by Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton?

Mr. May—Yes. I was in the office till late that evening, and he showed me the application.

Mr. Sharp—Did you see Mr. Badeley's answer in reply?

Mr. May—No; I don't know what answer he made.

Mr. Sharp—You did not know its purport?

Mr. May—No. Of course, any communication like that sent to my junior officers is ignored.

Three Chinese witnesses were called, including the sergeant-interpreter at No. 7 Police Station, who deposed that the plaintiff made a statement in the charge-room that he came from China.

Mr. Pollock submitted that the Habeas Corpus Act, under the provisions of which the plaintiff was suing, was not applicable in this Colony. Furthermore, it had not been proved that Mr. Mounsey had the authority of the plaintiff to act on his behalf in making the demand for a copy of the warrant. No demand was made under the provisions of the Statute, because Mr. Mounsey himself had admitted that he was not then aware of its provisions, and he had not even asked why the man was detained. No penalty, Mr. Pollock argued, was recoverable by the plaintiff from the defendant.

The hearing was adjourned.

JUDGMENT IN ACTION FOR RECOVERY OF RENT.

The following is the judgment delivered by his Lordship in the case of Tang Yik Hing and Tang Ip Fu, plaintiffs, land-owners in the New Territory, against Wun Lin Hang, defendant, a farmer, for recovery of rent:—

This is an action claiming \$57.24 for arrears of rent due during the 25th, 26th and 27th years of the Chinese reign styled Kwang Hsu, a period which roughly corresponds with the years 1899, 1900 and 1901.

The land in respect of which this claim is made is paddy land at the village of Luk Ti Tong in the sub-district of Mui Wo in the island of Lantau: it is therefore land in the New Territories.

The evidence satisfies me that the defendant, during 23rd and 24th years of the reign styled Kwang Hsu, rendered to the plaintiffs an annual rent which consisted of produce of the annual amount of 6 shek 3 tan 6 shing of paddy.

The relation of landlord and tenant between the parties being thus established, the tenant, who is the defendant, cannot dispute the plaintiffs' title. It follows from this that the Court gives no decision on the question of who is the real owner of the leased fields, which is a question for the decision of the Land Court constituted under Ordinance No. 18 of 1900.

Two points suggest themselves in connection with this case; first, whether the Supreme Court

has jurisdiction as a Court of first instance, and next, what is the proper form of action to recover the value in money of arrears of rent reserved in produce?

The Court is under this disadvantage, that no counsel or solicitor appeared on either side to conduct and argue the case, which, moreover, as I believe, one of first impression.

The first question then is, whether this Court has jurisdiction in this case. *Prima facie*, there is jurisdiction, because Ordinance No. 12 of 1873 is not included in the Schedule of Ordinance 10 of 1899 known as the Hongkong Extension Exemption Ordinance, 1899; and Section 9 of Ordinance 12 of 1873 enacts that "the Supreme Court shall have the same jurisdiction in the Colony of Hongkong and its dependencies as H.M.'s Courts of Queen's Bench, etc., lawfully have in England."

Now, the order in Council of the 20th October, 1898, and the Governor's Proclamation of the 8th April, 1899, published at pages 521 and 522 of the *Government Gazette* of 1899, make it plain that the New Territories are part and parcel of the Colony of Hongkong.

Apart, therefore, from any subsequent enactment stripping the Supreme Court of its jurisdiction, that Court undoubtedly appears to have jurisdiction to entertain actions upon matters arising in the New Territories.

The only subsequent enactment which might oust this jurisdiction is Ordinance No. 11 of 1899, known as the Local Communities Ordinance.

Part vi. of that Ordinance provides for the establishment of local tribunals in districts and sub-districts into which the New Territories have been divided, and such tribunals are to be called district courts or sub-district courts, with a jurisdiction, in civil cases, limited to claims of various kinds, not exceeding one hundred dollars.

If the district and sub-district courts contemplated had been established, it might have been a nice question whether the Supreme Court had jurisdiction: but as it does not appear from any source that such district and sub-district courts have been established, the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in this case seems to stand unimpeached.

The next question is, what is the proper form of action to recover the monetary value of arrears of rent reserved in produce?

Although rent is usually reserved and made payable in money, yet, according to Coke, it may be reserved "as well in the delivery of hens, capons, roses, spurs, bows, shafts, horses, hawks, wheat, or other profit that lieth in render, office, attendance and such like."—Co. Litt. 142a.

It was legitimate, therefore, to reserve a rent in produce such as paddy. I say *was*, because I shall show later that rent in produce may not now be reserved.

The proper form of action may, it seems, be any of three—either an action at common law of debt for rent, or of debt for use and occupation, or by statute an action on the case for use and occupation.

Of these three forms of action, the third appears to be the most suitable in this case; and, if necessary, the plaintiffs' writ may be amended accordingly, for no prejudice will thereby be suffered by the defendant.

This form of action is that provided by 11 Geo. II C. 19 S. 14, which enacts that it shall be lawful for a landlord, where the agreement is not by deed, to recover a reasonable satisfaction for the lands occupied by the defendant, in an action on the case for the use and occupation of what is so held or enjoyed; and if, in evidence, any *parol demise* or any agreement (not being by deed) whereon a certain rent was reserved, shall appear, the plaintiff in such action may make use thereof. Evidence of the quantum of damages to be recovered.

The expression *parol demise* includes, of course, a *demise* by word of mouth.

The evidence before the Court is to the effect that the defendant was tenant in the 23rd year; that defendant holds no title-deeds to the land; that he paid rent for several years to the first plaintiff; that he became tenant by an oral agreement and was a tenant from year to year.

The plaintiffs stated that the monetary value of the 6 shek 3 tan 6 shing of paddy reserved as annual rent was \$19.08, and that the rent

reserved was due in equal instalments, in the seventh and tenth moons of each Chinese year.

There is, therefore, in the *parol demise* a reservation of a certain rent which may be used as evidence of the quantum of the damages which plaintiff may recover.

But by Section 20 of Ordinance 18 of 1900, it is enacted that from the date of the coming into operation of that Ordinance, viz., 23rd July, 1900, no rent in produce shall be reserved in any agreement for the occupation of land in the New Territories, and that if any rent in produce is so reserved after the said date, then such rent shall not be recoverable in any Court of law or by any legal process or proceedings.

I am, however, of the opinion that this Section is not applicable to the circumstances of the present case, and that the agreement for the occupation of the land, in respect of which arrears of rent are now claimed, was not a new agreement, reserving rent in produce, made after the coming into operation of Ordinance 18 of 1900 which appears to be the meaning of Section 20.

My reason for this conclusion is that the evidence indicates that an estate for years was created. That estate may be an estate held from year to year, which is styled a yearly tenancy. This consists, in the first instance, of

certain term of one year; but unless due notice to terminate the estate at the expiration of the year be given by either the grantor or grantee, it becomes, by virtue of the original grant, an estate for another year, reckoning from the completion of the first year; and thus a new year is continually added to the term as often as the previous notice which would secure its expiration is omitted to be given. (See *Edwards' Compendium of the Law of Property in Land*, 3rd edition, p. 43.)

Further, the same learned author states at p. 89 that a tenancy from year to year is created, in some cases, by operation of law, and that a lease whereby land is *demised* at an annual rent, whether payable quarterly or otherwise, but whereby no term is expressly limited, impliedly creates a tenancy from year to year.

The present tenancy therefore does not come within the purview of Section 20 of Ordinance 18 of 1900, because it must be taken to have arisen by virtue of the original grant.

The plaintiffs, having established that the monetary value of the annual rent reserved in produce was \$19.08, must have judgment with costs for twice that amount, viz., \$38.16, being for the 25th and 26th years of the reign styled Kwang Hsu. They cannot recover for the 27th year, because their writ is dated 13th August, 1901, which is the 29th day of the 6th moon of the 27th year, and rent is not due for the 27th year until the 7th moon has expired.

It must be understood that this judgment in no way deals with the question as to how far (if at all) custom does or does not annex unexpressed incidents to *parol demises* of land in the New Territories.

Wednesday, 4th September.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

HON. F. H. MAY v. LEUNG KUN YAU.

Mr. Sharp argued at great length, and the Court reserved judgment, counsel intimating that they would prefer a considered written judgment.

Thursday, 5th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

SHEWAN TOMES & CO. v. THE FOOK LEE FIRM.

His Lordship gave judgment in a case that will be found of interest generally to traders in the Colony. Shewan, Tomes & Company, merchants, 14, Des Voeux Road Central, sued the Fook Lee firm, 24, Hillier Street, claiming \$766.91 for damages for breach of contract, the particulars whereof are as follows:—By a contract in writing, bearing date the 15th day of April, 1901, and made between the plaintiffs and the defendants, the defendants purchased from the plaintiffs 660 kegs of wire nails at \$6.15 per picul. It was a particular term of this contract that the defendants should take

delivery of the goods within one week from and of their arrival in the Colony. In breach of the terms of the contract, the defendants, although called upon by the plaintiffs to take delivery in accordance with the terms to the contract, refused so to do, and repudiated the contract in its entirety. The plaintiffs, in consequence of the contract, re-sold the goods, and upon such re-sale suffered damages to the extent aforesaid.

Mr. J. S. Harston, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. H. Hursthouse, solicitor, for the defendants.

The goods, it appears, arrived in the Colony on the 20th July—five days late as viewed in the terms of the contract, which indefinitely stated the time of arrival to be two or three months from the date of the contract.

Mr. Harston raised two points in this connection. First, he contended that the date of arrival, "two or three months," was only a warranty, not a condition precedent.

Mr. Hursthouse, for the defendants, held on the other hand that the date was a condition precedent, and not a warranty, thus giving the defendants the right to rescind the contract.

The second point raised by Mr. Harston was one of time, the more important of the two in its general significance. He submitted that the plaintiffs in their use of the time "two or three months," did not specify a particular date for the arrival of the goods, simply about two or three months.

Mr. Hursthouse took the opposite view, and argued that exact date was meant, with three months as the limit.

On the first point his Lordship followed the case of *Chi Yuen v. Ebrahim* on appeal, and decided in favour of the defendants that the date of the arrival of the goods was a condition precedent. On the question of time he held that three months meant calendar months, and that 15th July was the termination of the period in which the goods were to arrive.

Judgment was accordingly entered for the defendants, with costs.

SPORTING AND OTHER NOTES.

I hear it has been suggested that the Race Club should take in a stretch of ground parallel with the road along the (North) East end of the Recreation Ground so as to make a better course for the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile races. A very excellent suggestion it is, and I hope the Committee of the Race Club will take it up and carry it through. As all race goers know, the start here for the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile is all on the turn and is just about as bad a place for a starting post as could be found; in fact it is quite impossible to get a fair start there, and no trouble should be spared in making a change for the better. In taking in the stretch of ground referred to, no other games would be interfered with and all the Race Club have to do is to level a track from the dressing shed of the Football Club to join the course. The length of the Recreation Ground is about a furlong, and with the additional 39 yards or so from the Recreation Ground to the course the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile can be got in comfortably. This will give the Club about as good a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile course as they could wish for.

With so many walers in the Colony, would it not be possible to include a jumping competition in the next Gymkhana? Every one likes to see horses jump; men who have been at it all their lives will turn round to see a horse take a fence. Many of these ponies will be found to be natural jumpers, and a pony measuring 14.2 is quite capable of jumping anything if it's a good one. *Father O'Flynn*, who won the Grand National, was only 15 hands. It would be quite feasible to put a swing gate on the exercising ring, a flight of rails, with a loose top bar, a flight of bushed hurdles, and a wall composed of wooden blocks could easily be put up and removed. The objection may be raised that the ground is too hard to jump, but these ponies come from a country where all the jump races are run on ground like iron, and it is very seldom they ever break down. It is difficult to explain, but for some reason or other their legs and feet are far better than English horses. Such a competition would be an excellent test for the riders, and I think would be appreciated by every one.

The Report and Accounts of the Cricket Club are out, and I think the Accounts might be made a little clearer by putting some of the items under distinct headings and working with columns instead of one. A few more details too might be given in some cases, so that members may see at a glance how the money is spent. For example:—

Refreshments.	
Tiffins ??	8754.70
Tea and Cake ??	100 8854.70

Cricket.	
Cost of gear	\$658.38
Less unused stock on hand ??	200 8458.38

There is not much to be said about the accounts except that the item "Refreshments," \$854.70, is a heavy expenditure against receipts for entrance fees and subscriptions of \$4,460, I take it that the tea and cake supplied to the fair sex does not amount to more than \$100, which leaves \$754.70 for tiffins. Great Scott! \$754.70 for tiffins! If the greater part of this sum had been saved for 10 years it would have gone a long way towards paying for a much needed new pavilion. It is all very well to entertain a visiting team, but to give free tiffins at the ordinary pick-up matches is placing a greater strain on the Club's resources than they can well stand—especially now when every dollar is wanted to put up a pavilion adequate to the size and requirements of the Club.

I wonder when "Ping Pong" will "catch on" in the Colony. The reason that it has not done so up to date is probably due to the fact that there has been a difficulty in obtaining the game, but I understand that local firms have sent home some time since for a consignment of boxes. I have no doubt that when once people are able to obtain the game they will be as ping pong mad as they are or were a short time ago at home in all ranks of society. It is a good game and one in which ladies can compete on equal terms with men; it requires a keen eye and a delicate touch. For the information of those who may not yet have seen the game played, I suggest that the table should be from 8 feet to 9 feet long and the breadth anything from 4 feet to 5 feet; if played at night, an overhead light is desirable.

Those of our friends at home who were fortunate enough to journey to Sandown to witness the Eclipse Stakes, saw probably a finish which was unique in the annals of racing. The winner, *Epsom Lad*, owned by Mr. Kincaid and purchased from Lord Rosebery for 1,050 sovereigns, was ridden by the South American jockey Gomez, and so fast did he travel that in the last part of the journey "he galloped out of his saddle!" and his jockey rode a bare-backed finish and won by a head, keeping his saddle on the horse's back with his right hand—a truly wonderful performance. Jockeys of the present day seem to be able to dispense with saddles altogether, and the old-time idea of sitting down to ride is quite out of date so far as flat racing is concerned.

VETERAN

We have received from Mr. Mee-Cheung, photographer, two excellent representations of H. E. Tai Mu, Viceroy of the Kwang Provinces. One photograph is of H. E. alone, the other presents him with his son, grandson, and four attendants. Mr. Mee-Cheung went over to Canton to secure these portraits, and the results are exceedingly good. He also sends us an interesting photo of the Viceregal bodyguard at Canton. All three are pictures well worth preserving.

The *Japan Mail* says with reference to the threatened Mormon propagandism in Japan:—Such "apostles" are corrupters of morality and enemies of pure happiness. We are distinctly of the opinion that their preaching should be officially forbidden in this country. The Constitution guarantees liberty of conscience within the limits of law and order, but Mormonism is not within the limits of law since, according to the public admission of Apostole Grant, its preachers believe in the propriety of a practice which is emphatically forbidden by the law.

KOWLOON BOWLING CLUB.

OPENING OF NEW GREENS.

Lovely weather favoured the function on the 31st ult. of the opening by H.E. the Governor of the new greens in Austin Road of the Kowloon Bowling Green Club. Decorated on all sides with flags, and presenting, in the numerous attendance of prettily attired ladies and more soberly dressed members of the other sex, an appearance at once animated and striking, the greens were quite a carnival aspect—an impression that was heightened by the excellent performances later on in the day of the band of the 22nd Bombay Infantry.

The Kowloon Bowling Club is not an old institution. It started in Hongkong about a year ago with but a few members. A green was taken in Observatory Road, but the ground was in many ways unsuitable, and after a time the Government was approached with a view to leasing to the Club a piece of ground that could be more readily adapted to the pursuit of the game. The result of these overtures was the concession to the Club of the site upon which now stand the greens formally opened to play on Saturday. Originally a swamp, the ground has been converted into an expanse of firm and comparatively smooth turf, and the condition of the greens, though not yet perfect, is a high tribute to the energy that has been displayed by the promoters of the Club. Time and usage will go to complete the work so commendably begun, and, as Mr. W. Ramsay, the genial President, said in his address to H. E. the Governor, bring the greens as near the state of perfection of home greens as is possible under different climatic conditions. With the possible formation of other clubs in the future, and the playing off of matches, tournaments, and so on, quite an important and popular item will be added to the list of sports in the Colony.

The Kowloon Bowling Green Club has now a membership of over 100. The President is Mr. W. Ramsay; vice-President, Mr. W. C. Jack; Secretary, Mr. J. Gault; and Treasurer, Mr. A. Ritchie. The Committee consists of Messrs. Wilks, Henderson, Ewens, and Reid. The new green is thirty yards each way.

H.E. the Governor, accompanied by his *aid-de-camp*, Lieut. A. Blake, arrived promptly, and the ceremony of formally opening the greens was proceeded with.

Addressing the Governor, Mr. RAMSAY said—Your Excellency, on behalf of the members of this Club, I have much pleasure in welcoming you here to-day to declare our new bowling greens open to play. Knowing the great interest your Excellency takes in all forms of healthy recreation and your desire to help forward every movement that tends to the welfare of the community, our Committee were unanimous in their desire that you should perform the opening ceremony to-day. As your Excellency is doubtless aware, the Kowloon Bowling Green Club was formed last year. Already it has a membership of over 100, and as bowling—the royal and ancient game of bowling—provides a form of healthy outdoor recreation for some of us who cannot well indulge in more violent exercises, we have no doubt this Club—and, we hope, rival Clubs—will become more popular still with the European residents of this Colony. The need of a ground of its own was early apparent to the Club, and we have to thank your Excellency for so readily acceding to our request to lease the site on which we are now located. The swamp which formerly marked this place has been replaced by beautiful turf, and we hope in time to bring our greens as near the state of perfection of home greens as is possible under different climatic conditions. Unfortunately, we hold our site under a three years' lease only, one year of which is already expired; but I think we can express the confident hope that your Excellency will see your way to grant us a longer lease, the more so when consideration is given to the expenditure incurred and the benefit this Club is likely to confer upon a very large section of the Kowloon community. There is another matter which I should like to mention to your Excellency. When the idea of forming a Bowling Club was suggested, and everything in progress towards its completion, the question arose—Can we not provide some form of outdoor recreation for the ladies? (Applause) The

ladies in the past have been very good in providing teas and in other ways looking after the comfort of the members of the Club. Up to the present they have had no special recreation provided for them, and I now ask your Excellency to give the Club a site close to the bowling green where we can construct a tennis court upon which the ladies of Hongkong and Kowloon could play. We only ask for the ground on the same terms as those attaching to the bowling green, and I am sure the ladies and the members of the Club will be grateful if such a concession were made to us. We will lay out the tennis court in approved fashion, and I feel confident the ladies will take full advantage of it. I have now much pleasure in asking your Excellency to be good enough to declare the greens open. (Applause.)

In replying, His EXCELLENCY thanked Mr. Ramsay and the Committee of the Club for the invitation that had brought him there, and after congratulating the members of the Bowling Club on the way in which they had piloted the entire scheme to an admirable success, commented favourably on the condition of the greens. Referring to the point raised by Mr. Ramsay in reference to the lease, His Excellency said he was well aware of the circumstances under which the ground had been acquired, and he quite understood the anxiety on the part of those connected with the Club that the lease should be for a longer time. The idea of the Government, he said, was, and had been for some time, to make the ground on which the greens were situated a public park, because everyone realised that in the future Kowloon would probably become the principal part of the Colony of Hongkong. That being so, now in his opinion was the time to acquire some open spaces, and if that particular piece of land were made a public park he did not think it could be put to a better use than that of affording such an admirable recreation as was to be found in the fine old game of bowls. (Applause) Mr. Ramsay had spoken somewhat deprecatingly of the game, possibly because no space would be found for other games; but the game that was good enough for Sir Francis Drake was good enough for the men of Hongkong or Kowloon. (Applause.) His Excellency thought it a fine game, and a game which everyone, young and old, could enjoy. As to the other portion of land that was required for a tennis court, if the land was Crown property His Excellency would have no objection whatever to giving it to the Club on terms such as attached to the ground leased by the Bowling Club. (Renewed applause.) He should be very pleased indeed to know that the ladies of Hongkong and Kowloon had some place where they could play tennis. Reverting to the matter of the lease for the bowling green, His Excellency said that although it was only a three years' lease, the members of the Club must remember that it could go on in that way year after year, and he thought they could feel perfectly satisfied that they would not be disturbed. The Government he was quite sure, would never dream of disturbing the inhabitants of Kowloon in the enjoyment of so pleasant a recreation as was afforded by the bowling greens. His Excellency concluded by expressing his thanks for the honour conferred upon him of opening the greens to play, and again congratulated the Club most heartily on the success attending its work. (Applause.)

Mr. RAMSAY then presented to His Excellency, as a memento of the occasion, a silver jack bearing the inscription:—"Kowloon Bowling Club, opened by His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., August 31st, 1901."

After the success of the Club had been toasted in champagne, His Excellency threw the silver jack and played the ball that opened the greens to play. He afterwards took part in a two-head game, the other gentlemen forming the rink being Lieut. A. Blake, and Messrs. Ramsay, Jack, Gault, Toucher, Wilks, and Ritchie. The ordinary games between members and their friends thereafter proceeded. His Excellency and his *aid-de-camp* left for Hongkong soon after.

In the course of the afternoon Mr. RAMSAY proposed a vote of thanks to the following ladies for their kindness in providing tea and ice-cream:—Mrs. Wilks, Mrs. Benson, Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. Gault, Mrs. Jack, Mrs. Lambert, Miss Paterson, and Miss Shaw.

A vote of thanks to the President of the Club, Mr. Ramsay, brought to a close an exceedingly pleasant afternoon.

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB
AQUATIC SPORTS.

FIRST DAY.

The annual aquatic sports of the Victoria Recreation Club opened at Kowloon on the 5th inst. in pleasant, if somewhat cloudy, weather. At the commencement there was not a large concourse of spectators, but after business hours on the Island a big audience watched the various events with much interest. Some very good struggles were seen, especially in the Four Lengths Race for the Army, Navy and Police. Altogether the day's sport was most excellent. The following were the results:—

1. 4.30 p.m.—HALF-MILE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY. Open to all-comers. 1st prize presented by Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving. 2nd prize presented.

1. A. A. Alves
2. N. H. Alves
3. J. M. Rosa Pereira

From the start the Alves family took a good lead. Rounding the mark-boat, the relative positions were hard to judge, and the tide running strongly made the aspect of the race deceptive. Coming in, A. A. Alves was going well, followed by his brother N. H., while A. E. S. Alves was paced by Rosa Pereira. The winners finished in the above order, the rest being nowhere. Nine entered of the 14 competitors on the card.

2. 5.00 p.m.—TWO LENGTHS (HANDICAP). Open to competitors over 35 years of age. 1st and 2nd prizes presented.

1. A. M. Rosa Pereira ("Go")
2. M. Moller (owes 17 sec.)

Won easily; 3 entered.

3. 5.15 p.m.—PLUNGING.—Two prizes.

1. A. Humphreys
2. A. Loureiro

4. 5.30 p.m.—FOUR LENGTHS HANDICAP. Two prizes presented. First and second in each heat to swim in the final.

First Heat.

1. F. D. Bain (owes 3 sec.)
2. N. H. Alves (owes 18 sec.)

A popular and well-deserved victory. Alves made a gallant attempt to reduce the visitor's start.

5. 5.45 p.m.—FOUR LENGTHS (Army, Navy and Police). Non-Members. Two prizes.

1. Sergt. Major A. J. Wiseman, R.A.M.C.
2. Pte. W. Roberts

There being ten competitors, two heats were swum, the four leaders competing in the final, after the conclusion of the next event. The race was a very fine one, all four men being close together.

6. 6 p.m.—TWO LENGTHS (HANDICAP). 2 prizes presented. First in each heat to swim in the final.

First Heat.

1. N. H. Alves (owes 12 sec.)

Second Heat.

1. H. A. Lambert (owes 11 sec.)

Third Heat.

1. A. E. S. Alves (owes 15 sec.)

Fourth Heat.

1. C. M. S. Alves (owes 10 sec.)

SECOND DAY.

The second day's programme was again favoured with good weather, though, as on the first day, it looked rather cloudy. The attendance of spectators was also equally as good, and everyone manifested keen interest in the different events. H.E. the Governor and the Hon. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart were present, and waited till the finish.

The following are the results:—

1. 4.30 p.m.—CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY, 200 yards (six lengths). Open to all-comers. 1st prize presented by R. G. Shawan, Esq. 2nd prize presented.

1. N. H. Alves
2. A. A. Alves
3. A. E. S. Alves

Time, 2 min. 41 4/5 sec.

Five started out of the thirteen entrants—J. M. Rosa Pereira, N. H. Alves, A. E. S. Alves, A. A. Alves, and Frank Joyce. All got off to a good start, but the Alves brothers

immediately took the first three places, with A. A. in the lead. Half-way through Pereira and Jorge gave up. A. A. Alves swam well, but could not shake off his brother N. H., who won in the last twenty yards by an arm's length.

2. 5.00 p.m.—SWIM UNDER WATER.—Two prizes. (The distance is calculated to the point where the water is first broken by any part of the body.)

1. A. Humphreys, 143ft.

2. M. A. Razack, 120ft.

3. F. M. Roza Pereira, 104ft.

3. 5.30 p.m.—FOUR LENGTHS HANDICAP.

Second Heat.

1. A. A. Alves.

2. S. R. Moore.

3. C. M. S. Alves.

Won by four lengths; time, 2 mins. 1 4/5 secs.

Seven started—M. A. Razack, go; F. K. Tata, owes 6 sec; S. R. Moore, 8 sec; C. M. S. Alves, 8 sec; J. M. Roza Pereira 16 sec; Frank Jorge 18 sec; A. A. Alves 23 sec; A. A. Alves, the scratch man, quickly overhauled the others, but had very little to spare when he passed, about five yards from the winning post. S. R. Moore and C. M. S. Alves. The finish was a close and exciting one.

4. 5.45 p.m.—BOYS' RACE (11 to 15 years of age) 2 lengths (handicap)—Two prizes.

Won by Master Alves; time, 63 secs. Five boys competed. The winner started from scratch, and tumbled rather than dived into the water. He scored a popular victory.

5. 6 p.m.—TEAM RACE.

Station No. 1.—N. H. Alves, H. A. Lammert, E. W. Carpenter, F. K. Tata, F. E. Ellis, A. M. S. Soares.

Station No. 2.—A. A. Alves, F. M. Roza Pereira, R. Henderson, F. D. Bain, S. R. Moore, F. J. V. Jorge, Jr.

Station No. 3.—A. E. Alves, C. E. Hance, E. B. Millar, A. J. Mackie, M. A. Razack, W. T. Andrews.

Station No. 4.—A. Humphreys, J. M. Roza Pereira, C. M. S. Alves, A. J. Pereira, L. E. Lammert, G. H. Ruby.

A. A. Alves's team won.

HONGKONG.

Two plague cases and two deaths (Chinese) have been reported since our last issue.

The launch *Kung Hoi* collided with a junk in the harbour and damaged it to the extent of \$50. No one was hurt.

Tan Fung Chai, a girl of 19, who resided in the Central district, has died from the effects it is believed, of a self-administered dose of opium. The body lies in the mortuary.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Jas. Cramer, chief musketry instructor at Kowloon rifle range, who died on Friday at 2.40 p.m. The funeral took place on the 7th inst., at the Roman Catholic Cemetery.

We hear that the Water Policeman who shot a Chinese recently and was sent to the insane asylum for observation was removed to the gaol recently, where he is awaiting examination.

Through playing with lighted joss-sticks in a house at 44, Wellington Street, yesterday morning, some children almost burned their parents' house down. They set fire to several articles of clothing, but the flames were fortunately extinguished by an European fireman and the inmates before much damage was done.

A correspondent signing himself Harry Forrester writes to our Shanghai morning contemporary with regard to the recent mysterious death, supposed to have been suicide, of Capt. Clemens:—Sir,—Seeing your announcement in this morning's issue re the death of the late Andrew Paul Clemens, I beg now to state that I shall in a few days be not only prepared to upset the medical evidence, or part thereof, and show that deceased was murdered, but shall also be prepared to state who the murderer is, and the motive for the deed.

Mr. G. J. W. King on the 2nd inst. offered for sale at the offices of the Public Works Department one lot of Crown land at Kennedy Road—Inland Lot No. 1,642—and four lots of Crown land at Tai Kok Tsui, Kowloon—Inland Lots Nos. 1,128, 1,129, 1,130, and 1,131. The first lot was bought for the German Club for \$9,063—\$20 above the upset price. The other four lots were disposed of as one, and fetched \$6,820. The upset price was fixed at \$5,208. Messrs. Denison and Ram were the purchasers.

The appointment of Capt. W. L. Warren, R.G.A., to be Private Secretary to H.E. the Governor, is notified in the *Gazette*.

The steam-roller which last week fell through the road near Murray Barracks, was extricated on the 31st ult., and the hole was filled in.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to appoint the sites at Kennedytown and Cheung Sha Wan to be used as plague cemeteries.

Mr. G. A. Woodcock has been appointed Secretary of the Sanitary Board. Hitherto he has held the acting appointment. We congratulate Mr. Woodcock on his well-merited promotion.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week showed that 309 non-Chinese and 89 Chinese visited the former institution, 69 non-Chinese and 1,821 Chinese the latter.

One of the temporary coolie bath-houses at Wanchai has been destroyed by fire, due to a spark from a water-heating match close by. The flames were prevented from spreading by the local fire brigade from No. 2 Station.

Our evening contemporary, the *Hongkong Telegraph*, appears now in much improved guise and has expanded to eight pages. The general get-up of the paper has also been changed for the better. We congratulate our contemporary on its advance.

The Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Captain Superintendent of Police, went home on leave by the German mail steamer *Prinzess Irene* on the 5th inst. During his absence Mr. F. J. Badeley, Deputy Superintendent, will undertake the Captain Superintendent's duties, while Chief Inspector Mackie will take over Mr. Badeley's functions. Inspector Kemp will be Acting Chief Inspector during the temporary rearrangement of posts.

An amusing incident was witnessed in the Queen's Road near the Clock Tower just about noon on the 30th ult. A carrying coolie dropped one of his baskets from his bamboo, and immediately there rolled and hopped into the roadway dozens of crabs and frogs, which scattered in all directions, to the dismay of the unfortunate coolie, who almost upset the other basketful in his haste to gather his collection together. Light-fingered brother coolies and adjacent doorways were responsible for the disappearance of quite half the original number of frogs, which were more easily handled and speedier than the crabs.

A novel scene was witnessed at the Water Police Basin, Tsimshatsui, between 7 and 8 a.m. on the 31st ult. Twenty men jumped into the water with life-belts on, and made their way to the Police launch which was anchored about 300 yards off. The Capt. Supt. of Police has ordered the crews of the patrol launches in the New Territory to be provided with life-belts, one for each member of the crew. The inspector-in-charge of the Water Police, assisted by the sergeant and constable in charge of the launch, instructed the Chinese crew how to put the belts on and how to swim with them, setting the example by jumping in first.

It would pay the P.W.D., to send an inspector to inspect some of the buildings on Wing Lock Street, all Chinese shops used for storing rice, salt, and such commodities. Nos. 9, 7, 15, 17, 21, 23, 37, 43, 55 and 67 appear in anything but a sound condition. In a few of those mentioned the walls have actually commenced to bulge slightly, while on all of them more or less the mortar has crumbled away; and in many places the bricks are doing likewise, some of the houses being quite honey-combed in front. If they are as bad in front, how must they be in the rear and internally? On Nos. 21 and 23, as a representative of this paper passed, a mason was engaged in filling in with mortar the holes caused by the falling out of rotten bricks. Some of the houses also show cracks, in other the cracks have been plastered. Nos. 11a to 35a are also in a most dilapidated state.

While the British surveying-ship *Rambler* is undergoing a refit, her crew will be transferred to the gunboat *Tweed*.

The British transport *Nereus* departed for Taku and the U.S. gunboat *Don Juan de Austria* left for Manila on the 31st ult.

On the 2nd inst. H.M. sloop *Phanis* left for Canton, the transports *Mutira* and *Iris* for Calcutta, and the *Uganda* for Taku.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The old National Athletic Club of Manila has changed its name to the American Club.

Mr. J. W. Hallifax, President of the Penang Municipal Commissioners, left for Europe by the P. & O. steamer *Malacca*.

It is reported that Mr. W. T. Taylor will not leave Colombo to take up his new appointment as Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements till the end of November.

Indo-Chinese journals announce that M. Champoudry, former president of the Paris Municipal Council, has been appointed to supervise finances at Lang-biang.

The first block-map of City of the Manila is to be made by City Engineer Meade. It will show the city block by block, all levels, gutters, street drains, thoroughfares, widths, etc.

The annual visit to the Cocos will be paid this year by H. M. S. *Rosario*. The Commissioner on this occasion will be Mr. W. Langham Carter. The *Rosario* was to leave Singapore about the 4th September.

A Tokyo telegram of the 19th ult. announced the death of Marquis Shotai, who was the sovereign of the Loochoos before the islands were annexed to the Japanese Empire. His demise occurred at his residence in Tokyo.

The British Government is said to have demanded that the cashiered Taotai Pao Tsulin, of Chuchou notoriety, shall be banished to Kuldja, and that Yung Ch'uan, formerly Provincial Judge of Chekiang, shall be sent to Tibet.

Great mortality is reported to be prevalent amongst the Chinese immigrants near Sibn, Sarawak. Some months back there was an epidemic of jungle fever amongst them, of which several died, while others were compelled to return to China. But with the abandonment of a certain locality the epidemic disappeared. The latest reports however are so serious, that the P. M. O. of the state has gone up to make investigation as to the causes of the outbreak.

In our report of the 31st ult. on the magisterial enquiry into the Cochrane Street disaster, we incorrectly stated that Mr. H. Tooker, Acting Assistant Director of Public Works, deposed in evidence that the buildings were not in accordance with Ordinance 15 of 1894, whereas Mr. Tooker really said that the plans submitted for alterations of, and additions to, these houses in November and December of last year were in accordance with Ordinance 15 of 1894.

The latest news from Tibet via Indian sources, is that there is much internal trouble in Lhasa. One popular rumour is that the Dalai Lama is to cease to have any concern with the temporal Government and attend only in person or by proxy to religious matters. In that case the present chief lay minister would assume all civil and military administrative functions and practically become supreme ruler of the country. The old jealousy of Chinese influence seems to be reviving, though there is but little national spirit among the Tibetans.

Nine of the insurgent General Malvar's officers were recently captured by a detachment of the 6th U.S. Cavalry under command of Lieut. Grant. Among them were General Martin Cabrivio, next in command to Malvar, three majors, and five captains. Numerous important documents were found on the prisoners, amongst which were letters giving the names of several Manila residents who had assisted Malvar with money to carry on the fight. General Cabrivio said that Malvar is in great distress and will have to surrender at an early date.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* of the 30th ult. makes a sarcastic proposal in reply to the demand for the return of the bronze astronomical instruments looted from the Peking Observatory and taken to Berlin. Not only should these bronze instruments be quickly returned, suggests the *Lloyd*, but it should at last be publicly announced on what day the German Mission of Apology will leave for China to express Germany's regret that her troops went to China last summer, instead of having encouraged the Boxers to annihilate European commerce altogether and massacre all Europeans in China. An indemnity to China is suggested, and it might be well to consider, should China still be dissatisfied, whether it would not be well to permit her to place Manchurian garrisons at Hamburg, Bremen, and Berlin.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPBOR

HONGKONG, 6th September.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 6th September.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.57 to \$8.62	pcd.
do. " 2, White.....	7.65 to 7.70	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.95 to 6.00	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.80 to 5.85	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.35 to 8.40	"
do. " 1, White.....	7.60 to 7.65	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.80 to 5.85	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.65 to 5.70	"
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.50 to 12.55	"
Shekloong "	10.09 to 11.00	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 6th September.—The advance in price continues, market being firm. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.65 to 2.70
" Round, Good quality	3.85 to 3.90
" Long	4.10 to 4.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.70 to 2.75
" Garden, " No. 1	3.45 to 3.50
" White.....	4.15 to 4.20
" Fine Cargo	4.35 to 4.40

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Deucalion*, sailed on the 9th August. For London:—6,954 boxes tea, scented caper=146,034 lbs., 755 boxes cougou=15,855 lbs., 750 bags gum, 116 bales hemp, 5 casks wood oil, 2,500 cases ginger, 167 cases Chinaware, 24 cases blackwoodware, 4 cases bambooware, 2 cases curios, 4 cases feathers dusters, 6 cases cigars, 19 cases essential oil, 10 pkgs. household goods, 21 pkgs. naval stores, 28 pkgs. sundries. For London opt. Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For London opt. Hamburg:—90 bales canes. For Odessa:—34 bales galangal.

Per steamer *Patroclus*, sailed on the 13th August. For Liverpool:—25 half-chests tea from Macao (particulars unknown), 100 bales matting, 100 bales bambooware, 20 bales teamats, 4 pkgs. sundries. For Glasgow:—1 case cigars.

Per steamer *Doric*, sailed on the 15th August. For San Francisco:—9 cases silkgoods. For La Libertad:—4 cases silkgoods. For Acapulco:—2 cases silkgoods. For Guayaquil:—7 silkgoods. For Callao:—2 cases silkgoods. For New York:—1 case silkgoods, 50 bales raw silk.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 6th September.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 1,400 bales No. 10 at \$84 to \$94, 400 bales No. 12 at \$89 to \$92, 300 bales No. 16 at \$95 to \$104.50, 1,900 bales No. 20 at \$99 to \$114.50. *Grey Shirtings*: 600 pieces 8 1/4 Butterflies at \$3.65, 600 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. 3 Dogs at \$3.70, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$3.85, 2,500 pieces 10 lbs. B. C. W. at \$4.02 1/2, 600 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.97 1/2, 500 pieces 11 lbs. 3 Persons at \$4.52 1/2, 600 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.97 1/2. *White Shirtings*: 600 pieces B 11 at \$4.70, 1,000 pieces Fan at \$5.65, 500 pieces Bat at \$6, 500 pieces Blue Lion at \$6.10, 500 pieces Blue Stork at \$5.47 1/2, 1,000 pieces M at \$5.55, 500 pieces Fox and Duck at \$6. *Drill*: 150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$6.35, 1,500 pieces 15 lbs. Cat Head at \$5.50, 150 pieces 15 lbs. Large Eagle at \$6, 150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$6.35. *Mexican*: 1,000 pieces 32 Man and Horse at \$2.22 1/2, 900 pieces 36 B B at \$2.97 1/2, 750 pieces 32 Crocodile at \$2.12 1/2.

COTTON YARN.—per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....\$74.00 to \$111.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. 2.10 to 2.15
7 lbs. 2.20 to 2.30
8 1/4 lbs. 2.80 to 3.40
9 to 10 lbs. 3.45 to 4.55
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.35 to 2.60
58 to 60 " 3.05 to 4.00
64 to 66 " 4.05 to 5.60
Fine 5.15 to 7.45
Book-folds 4.15 to 6.15

Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.73 to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.60 to 1.80
7lbs. (32 ")	1.85 to 2.15
6lbs. (32 ") Mexa.	1.82 1/2 to 2.02 1/2
7lbs. (32 ")	2.72 1/2 to 3.20
8 to 8 1/4 oz., (36 in.)	2.80 to 3.40
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.00 to 6.80

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/4 to 8 lbs }	1.55 to 5.00
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Brocades—Dyed	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 1/2 to 0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 1/2 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.20 to 0.22 1/2

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.36 to 2.50
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WOOLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.80 to 1.50
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Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 2.50
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Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.40 to 10.00
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Assorted.....	6.50 to 10.10
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Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 32.00
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Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches }	8.00 to 20.00
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Assorted }	8.50 to 10.00
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Orleans—Plain	per pair
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Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00 to 18.00
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METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	4.30 to —
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Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.25 to —
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Swedish Bar	6.75 to —
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Small Round Rod	4.80 to —
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Hoop 1 1/2 to 1 1/2 in.	5.50 to —
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Wire 15/25	8.50 to —
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Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
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Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	7.80 to —
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Australian	7.50 to —
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Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —
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Vivian's 14/20 oz.	39.00 to —
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Elliot's 14/20 oz.	39.00 to —
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Composition Nails.....	60.00 to —
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Japan Copper, Slabs.....	41.00 to —
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Tin.....	69.50 to —
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Tin-Plates	per box.
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Steel 1 to 2	per cwt. case
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New Chops 14 20 oz.	5.75 to —
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SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver	per picul
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Window Glass	per box.
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Kerosene Oil.....	per 10-gal. case
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2.10 to —	
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CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 7th September.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.44 1/2
Credits, 4 months' sight.....	2.47 1/2

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	1.98
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	47
Credits, 60 days' sight.....	47 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	144 1/2
Bank, on demand	145

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	144 1/2
Bank, on demand	145

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight.....	73 1/2

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	5 1/2
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	3 1/2
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	4
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	117 1/2
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	1 1/2
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	1 1/2
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	60 1/2
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	10.23
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	53.50
BAR SILVER per oz.	26 1/2

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.— <i>Tamba Maru</i> (str.).	
FOR LONDON.— <i>Parramatta</i> (str.), <i>Tydeus</i> (str.), <i>Pyrrhus</i> (str.), <i>Idomeneus</i> (str.), <i>Agamemnon</i> (str.), <i>Banca</i> (str.), <i>Tamba Maru</i> (str.).	
FOR LIVERPOOL.— <i>Orestes</i> (str.), <i>Ulysses</i> (str.).	
FOR MARSEILLES.— <i>Banca</i> (str.), <i>Yarra</i> (str.), <i>Tamba Maru</i> (str.).	
FOR BREMEN.— <i>Prince Heinrich</i> (str.).	
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.— <i>Koenigsberg</i> (str.), <i>Begoria</i> (str.), <i>Andalusia</i> (str.), <i>Arabia</i> (str.), <i>Bamberg</i> (str.).	
FOR TRIESTE.— <i>China</i> (str.).	
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.— <i>Duke of Fife</i> (str.), <i>Moyune</i> (str.), <i>Riojun Maru</i> (str.).	
FOR VANCOUVER.— <i>Empress of Japan</i> (str.), <i>Tartar</i> (str.).	
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.— <i>America Maru</i> (str.), <i>Coptic</i> (str.).	
FOR NEW YORK.— <i>Mogul</i> (str.), <i>Ataka</i> (str.), <i>L. Schepp, I. F. Chapman, Manuel Llaguno, Glengyle</i> (str.).	
FOR SAN DIEGO.— <i>Carlisle City</i> (str.).	
FOR PORTLAND (OR.).— <i>Indravelli</i> (str.).	
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.— <i>Taiyuan</i> (str.), <i>Rosetta Maru</i> (str.).	
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.— <i>Mike Maru</i> (str.).	
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.— <i>Bisagno</i> (str.).	

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 6th September.—Since our report of the 30th ultimo the August settlement, though heavy, has been successfully dealt with, but there has been little or no recovery in our market as confidently hoped for, and there is again little of interest to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been placed in small lots at from \$600 to \$605, but are easier at the close at \$602 1/2 sellers. The London rate has advanced to £61. 5s. Nationals and Bank of China are unchanged.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are quiet at \$340. China Traders have sold and have sellers at \$60. North-Chinas have improved to \$192 1/2. Yangtszes and Cantons are on offer at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires are on offer at \$342 1/2. China Fires have sold and are obtainable at \$82.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been placed freely at \$34 1/2 and \$34 1/2, and there are further buyers. Indo-Chinas have been imported from Shanghai at \$135 to \$136 and more shares can probably be had at the higher rate. China-Manilas continue on offer at \$62. Doug'lases are obtainable at \$50. Star Ferries are still in request at \$24 1/2 (old) and \$9 1/2 (new). Shell Transports are unchanged at £21 12s. 6d. sellers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are neglected at \$136. Luzons are on offer at \$36.

MINING.—Rauhs have been done at \$11, \$11 1/2 and \$12, and are firm at the latter quotation. In other stocks there is no change to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have declined somewhat, and are now quoted at \$275. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold and have buyers at \$97 1/2. New Amoy Docks have been placed at \$24 1/2 and close with sellers at \$25. For December delivery sales have been effected at \$25 1/2 and \$26.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Land Investments have been placed in considerable quantities at \$191. Kowloon Lands are wanted at \$30 1/2. West Points are steady at \$51. Hongkong Hotels are wanted at \$127. Humphreys Estates have sold at \$13 1/2 and \$13 1/2, and are on offer at the higher rate.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have sold at \$10 1/2 and \$11, and are still in request. There is no change to report in other stocks under this head.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have sold at \$21. China-Borneos are quiet at \$38. Watsons are offering at \$16. Hongkong Electrics are wanted at \$12 1/2 (old) and \$6 1/2 (new). Ropes have sold at \$172 1/2. Hongkong Tees have sold at \$182 and are now

wanted at \$183. Tramways continue in request at \$275. United Asbestos have sold and are wanted at \$10. China Providents have been placed at \$97, and are on offer at slightly higher rates. Watkins have sellers at \$10.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	(602½, sellers L'don, £61.5s.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	15s.
Do. deferred	£1	£5.5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$28, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$28, buyers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$15, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1.10.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China-Borneo Co., Ld	\$15	\$38.
China Light & Power	\$20	\$20.
Co., Ld.		
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$97, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$136.
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$1,250, sellers
Philippine Tobacco	\$50	\$50.
Invest. Co., Ld.)		
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 40, buyers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 35.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 300.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 12½.
Hongkong	\$100	\$11, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$8, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$21, sales
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$12½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$64, buyers
Hk. Steam Water	\$100	\$275, buyers
boat Co., Ld.	\$5	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$127, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$183, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$97, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$172½, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$275.
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$170, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$82, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$80, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$342½, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 192½.
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$340.
Yangtze	\$60	\$122½, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$191, sales
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$131, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$304, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$51.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$36, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ld.	\$50	\$50, nominal.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$325.
Jebeu	\$5	\$41, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ld.	25c.	4 cents
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	nominal.
Do. B.	\$4	nominal.
Punjom	\$9	\$51, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$11.
Raubs	18	\$12, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$61	\$25.
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$55.
Powell, Ld.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Robinson Piano Co., Ld.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$62, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$40	\$12.
China Ordinary	\$10	\$12.
Do.	\$5	\$7.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$50, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$34, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$13.
Shel. Transport and	\$1	\$2.12a. 6d., sellers
Trading Co.		
Star Ferry	\$10	(\$21½, buyers \$9½, buyers
Tebran Planting Co.	\$5	\$1.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10, sales & buyers
Do	\$10	\$15.
Universal Trading	\$5	\$191, buyers
Co., Ld.		
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37	nominal.
Watkins, Ld.	\$10	\$10, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$16, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, brokers.

SHANGHAI, 28th July (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). A moderate business has been done in miscellaneous stocks during the week, while rates in Docks have been maintained.

BANKS.—Nationals are wanted. **INSURANCE.**—Marine. North Chinas were placed at Tls. 192.50 and 195 cash and 195 for 15th September. China Traders are offering. Fire. Chinas were placed at \$82.50 and are offering. **SHIPPING.**—Indo-China S. N. Co. Cash shares sold at Tls. 99 and 99.50 and are offering. Demand for forward shares is slack. Settlements have been made for September at Tls. 100, October 103, December 104 and 104.50. **SUGARS.**—Peraks are offering. **MINING.**—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares changed hands at Tls. 11.40, and 10.70 to 10.80 cash, market closing quiet. Settlements were made for September and October at Tls. 11. December 11.80 and 11.90. **DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.**—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ld. Cash rates have been steady between Tls. 240 and 245, the market closing with buyers at 242.50 and sales at 245. Settlements were made for 31st inst. at Tls. 242.50, September 245, December 257.50 and 260, January 262.50 and 265. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were placed at Tls. 295 and 290 (ex dividend of Tls. 6 paid on 27th inst.). **LANDS.**—Shanghai sold at Tls. 100 and are offering. Humphreys Estate shares were placed at \$13 and are wanted. **INDUSTRIAL.**—Gas shares are wanted. In Cotton Mills, Ewos sold at Tls. 37.50 and are offering; Laou Kung Mows were placed at Tls. 42.50 cash and 45 for September. Ice shares changed hands at Tls. 31 and 30 and are wanted. Pulp and Paper Mills are offering. Moutrie and Co. shares are offering. **TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.**—Nothing doing. **MISCELLANEOUS.**—Waterworks shares sold at Tls. 340 and are wanted. Sumatra Tobacco shares were let go at Tls. 37.50. Langkat Tobacco shares are steady with sales at Tls. 350 cash, though forward rates are weak. Settlements were made for October at Tls. 360, November 365 and December 375. Hall and Holtz shares changed hands at \$34, closing with buyers. Central Stores were placed at \$20. **DEBENTURES.**—Six per cent. investments are wanted.

SHANGHAI, 4th September.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—Business during the week has been dull, though rates are generally maintained. **BANKS.**—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Local shares were placed at 392.50 per cent. for 30th inst., and at 400 per cent. for December. Cash shares are offering. **INSURANCE.**—Marine stocks are quiet, though China Traders are offering. Fire. Chinas are offering. **SHIPPING.**—Indo-China S. N. Co. Cash business has been done at Tls. 99, 99.50 and 99 and the market closes steady, but quiet. Local settlements were made at Tls. 103 for November and 104 for December. Shell Transport shares are offering. **MINING.**—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Limited. Cash sales are reported at Tls. 10.60, 10.80 and 10.80, shares are offering. Settlements were made at Tls. 10.00 for October, 12.40 and 10.90 for December. **DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.**—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ld. Shares sold for cash at rates from Tls. 245 to 240, market closing with sellers at 242.50 and buyers at lower rates. Forward rates are weak and shares are on offer; the following settlements were made:—245 and 242.50 for September, 250 for October and November, 255 for November, 255, 260 and 252.50 for December and 260 for January. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 290. **LANDS.**—Shanghai were placed at Tls. 100 and are offering. Humphreys Estate shares are obtainable locally at \$13. **INDUSTRIAL.**—Gas shares are wanted. Major Bros. shares are offering. Ewo Cotton Mills were placed at Tls. 35 and are wanted. Yah Loong Cotton Mills are offering. Flour Mills are wanted. Pulp and Paper Mills and Moutrie and Co. shares are offering. **TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.**—Cargo Boats are offering. **MISCELLANEOUS.**—Waterworks are wanted. Sumatra Tobacco shares are quiet with sales at Tls. 37.50 and buyers at lower rates. Langkat Tobacco Co. Cash sales took place at Tls. 350 to 340, market closing with sales and buyers at latter figure. Shares were settled and are offering at 342.50 for 30th September. Hall and Holtz shares were placed at \$34. Central Stores changed hands at \$20 and are wanted. Astor House Hotel shares are offering. **DEBENTURES.**—Municipal 6 per cent. sold at Tls. 104, plus accrued interest. Shanghai Club 6 per cent. Debentures are offering.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

August—

30, Glenfalloch, British str., from Sourabaya.
30, Jupiter, British str., from Shanghai.
30, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from N'chwang.
31, Daybreak, Amr. str., from Shanghai.
31, Kutsang, British str., from Java.
31, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
31, Glenroy, British str., from Japan.
31, Muttra, British transport, from Taku.
31, Uganda, British transport, from Calcutta.
31, Ness, British str., from Moji.

September—

1, Itria, British transport, from Taku.
1, Eastern, British str., from Kobe.
1, Hailong, British str., from Swatow.
1, Clam, British str., from Singapore.
1, Freiburg, German str., from Bremen.
1, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
1, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
1, Anping Maru, Japanese str., from Anping.
1, Nanshan, British str., from Bangkok.
1, Pak'shan, British str., from Saigon.
1, Patria, Danish str., from Moji.
1, Taiyuan, British str., from Australia.
1, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.
1, Picciola, German str., from Iloilo.
2, Airlie, British str., from Australia.
2, Canton, British str., from Canton.
2, Elsa, German str., from Hongay.
2, Fausang, British str., from Java.
2, Foochow, British str., from Canton.
2, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
2, Kiukiang, British str., from Canton.
2, Michael Jebsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
2, Perla, British str., from Manila.
2, Sibiria, German str., from Shanghai.
2, Sithonia, German str., from Moji.
2, Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.
2, Tientsin, British str., from Canton.
2, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
3, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from Canton.
3, Duke of Fife, British str., from Tacoma.
3, Haitan, British str., from Tacoma.
3, Indravelli, British str., from Moji.
3, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
3, Loyal, German str., from Sourabaya.
3, Lyeemoo, German str., from Canton.
3, Preussen, German str., from Hamburg.
3, Princess Irene, Ger. str., from Shanghai.
3, Satsuma, British str., from New York.
3, Stentor, British str., from Foochow.
3, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
3, Stromboli, Italian cruiser, from Amoy.
3, Elcano, American str., from Manila.
4, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
4, Bisagno, Italian str., from Bombay.
4, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
4, Haiching, British str., from Haiphong.
4, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
4, Mara Kolb, German str., from Moji.
4, Manchuria, Russian str., from Odessa.
4, Progress, German str., from Tournon.
4, Yedo Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
4, Itinda, British transport, from Taku.
4, Pigmy, British gunboat, from Canton.
4, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
5, Banca, British str., from Foochow.
5, Firebrand, British gunboat, from Canton.
5, Hongwan I, British str., from Singapore.
5, Pyrrhus, British str., from Liverpool.
5, Benmohr, British str., from London.
6, Canton, British str., from London.
6, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
6, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
6, Kwanglee, British str., from Canton.
6, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
6, S. Rickmers, British str., from N'chwang.
7, Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
7, Feiching, British str., from Haiphong.
7, Kaifong, British str., from Hainho.
7, Mexican Prince, British str., from S'pore.
7, Elita Nossack, Ger. str., from Chinkiang.
7, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
7, Pax, Belgian str., from Saigon.
7, America Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.
8, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
8, Kino Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
8, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
8, Yarra, French str., from Shanghai.

August—

DEPARTURES.

31, Norana, British transport, for Taku.
31, Masilla, British str., for Europe.
31, Choyang, British str., for Canton.

31, Peru, American str., for San Francisco.
 31, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 31, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 31, D. J. de Austria, Amr. g. bt., for Manila.
 31, Anping, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Kansu, British str., for Nagasaki.
 31, Iaksang, British str., for Bangkok.
 31, Daybreak, American str., for Canton.
 31, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Dutch str., for Canton.
 31, P. C. C. Klao, Ger. str., for Singapore.
 31, Phranang, German str., for Bangkok.
 31, Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.

September—

1, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
 1, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 1, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 1, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., for Karatzu.
 1, Changsha, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Thales, British str., for Taiwanfoo.
 1, Shirley, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 1, Pelayo, British str., for Singapore.
 1, Rein, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 2nd September.
 2, Phoenix, British sloop, for Canton.
 2, Uganda, British transport, for Taku.
 2, Muttra, British transport, for Calcutta.
 2, Itria, British transport, for Calcutta.
 2, Jupiter, British str., for Manila.
 2, Shirley, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 2, Kaga Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 2, Holliswood, American barque, for Callao.
 3, Airlie, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Braemar, British str., for Tacoma.
 3, Daphne, German str., for Nagasaki.
 3, Freiburg, German str., for Shanghai.
 3, Kong Beng, German str., for Bangkok.
 3, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 3, Taichow, German str., for Bangkok.
 3, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 4, Athenian, British str., for Vancouver.
 4, Canton, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Crown of Arragon, Brit. str., for C. Town.
 4, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., for Sarawak.
 4, Glenfallloch, British str., for Amoy.
 4, Hipsang, British str., for Hakodate.
 4, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 4, Hue, French str., for Kwong-chow-wan.
 4, Kiukiang, British str., for Chinkiang.
 4, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 4, Perla, British str., for Manila.
 4, Preussen, German str., for Shanghai.
 4, Sibiria, German str., for Hamburg.
 4, Stentor, British str., for London.
 4, Styx, French gunboat, for Canton.
 4, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 4, Protector, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
 5, Ohoyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Daybreak, American str., for Ningpo.
 5, Eastern, British str., for Australia.
 5, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 5, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 5, Manchuria, Russian str., for Port Arthur.
 5, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 5, Nauchang, British str., for Tientsin.
 5, Ness, British str., for Moji.
 5, Prinzess Irene, German str., for Europe.
 5, Tailee, German str., for Swatow.
 6, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 6, Clam, British str., for Bulik Papan.
 6, Foochow, British str., for Tientsin.
 6, Firebrand, British gunboat, for Canton.
 6, Hinsang, British str., for Singapore.
 6, Pakshan, British str., for Amoy.
 6, Sithonia, German str., for Calcutta.
 6, Tientsin, British str., for Nagasaki.
 6, Taioheong, German str., for Foochow.
 6, Itinda, British transport, for Calcutta.
 7, Pyrrhus, British str., for Tournon.
 7, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 7, Patria, Danish str., for Bangkok.
 7, Fushun, British str., for Canton.
 7, Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.
 7, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
 7, Barca, British str., for London.
 7, Robt. Dickinson, Brit. str., for Hankow.
 8, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 8, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 8, Pyrrhus, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Taiyuan*, from Australia, Mrs. Nelson, Messrs. Jocelyn, F. Glass and Quinchard.
 Per *Hailong*, from Swatow, Mr. James Scott and Master R. Taylor.

Per *Coptic*, from San Francisco, Mrs. E. E. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. K. Bottorff and child, Mrs. T. H. Mead, Miss O. Mead, Miss White, Miss C. Wilson, Messrs. S. McCurdy, F. C. Pollitz and J. P. Templeton; from Honolulu, Messrs. Russell Harper, L. Maynard and C. A. Ames; from Yokohama, Major and Mrs. H. S. Wallace, U.S.N., Mrs. Hilbert, Col. and Mrs. R. Baillie, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. D'Almada E. Castro and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. Franklin, Miss V. Hilbert, Miss J. Hook, Messrs. D. W. Salter, H. E. Worrall and A. L. Sharpe; from Kobe, Mrs. H. Connor, Mrs. J. L. Powell and Miss Powell, Miss Miles, Miss Kock, Dr. J. J. Kinyoun and Mr. W. F. Provan; from Nagasaki, Lieut. G. Ogilvie; from Shanghai, Messrs. A. E. Magill, F. Sturm and C. H. Thompson.

Per *Eastern*, from Kobe, Mrs. H. Lovely, Mr. and Mrs. Gainford, Lieut. Luxmore, Messrs. Colin Caird, Rae and V. Meeks.

Per *Itria*, from Taku, Col. A. de V. Alexander, Capt. W. G. Richards, I.M.S., Major H. F. K. Waldron, Lieut. J. S. Jett Carnao and Lieut. E. C. Patterson, R.E.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Nelson and Holmes.

Per *Airlie*, from Australia, Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson and Mr. Helads.

Per *Perla*, from Manila, Miss Knight, Messrs. Oyme, Halligan and Hughes.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. Burder, Malkin and Johnson.

Per *Fausang*, from Pasuruan, Mrs. Mitchell and Miss Mitchell and Miss M. Powell.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Messrs. Peplow and Colombo.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. J. S. Roach and two children, Mrs. Crowlie, Misses Frumkin, L. Bruhn, Santes, Dr. Hewitt, Messrs. Van Dorp, Farley, Baldwin, and Phillips.

Per *Preussen*, from Hamburg, for Hongkong, Mr. Fischer; for Shanghai, Miss Augusta Pfeifer and Mr. Froese; for Nagasaki, Mr. John Wolf; for Kobe, Mr. Paul Ehlers; from Antwerp, for Shanghai, Messrs. Jean Collon, Joseph Delcharlerie, Achille Etienne, Gustave Jonas, Charles Ley, Jules Lecomte, Oscar Mamet and Victor Nandertaelen; from Southampton, for Shanghai, Miss Wade, Messrs. Barclay, G. C. Byng and A. Jones; for Yokohama, Mr. R. Gordon Smith; from Genoa, for Hongkong, Mr. Gustav Hillmann; for Shanghai, Consul Heinrich Cordes, Messrs. Otto Maréchal and Oskar Strahlendorf; for Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Adolf Wegener; for Yokohama, Dr. A. Hahn.

Per *Prinzess Irene*, from Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Kriele, Mr. and Mrs. Summers, Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, Misses Watkins, Goggins, and Wilson, Messrs. Hollingsworth, R. H. Newborn and O. Brainer; from Kobe, Misses D. Kenada and L. Eyre; from Nagasaki, Mrs. W. D. Brewitt, Capt. Zar and Zacevich, Messrs. G. Naccari and Ahlmann; from Shanghai, Mrs. Silbermann, Messrs. W. Reber, F. Limby, H. Ziegler, Schmidt, Heuker, Donnelly, Ellis and Kechnie; from Foochow, Messrs. R. Greig, C. Liegeot, Hutchinson and F. Richards; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Mr. G. M. Dare; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Smithson, Miss Bartlett, and Mr. Hagedorn; from Nagasaki, Mrs. O. Soerotani, Capt. P. Ivanish and Mr. C. Liebhardt; from Shanghai, Miss L. Ungar, Messrs. Walte and Proper; for Penang, from Yokohama, Mr. Aljunid; from Nagasaki, Mrs. S. Leibmann; for Colombo, from Nagasaki, Mr. Fuschke-witsch; for Port Said, Dr. Idolmann and Mr. N. Molehanoff; for Suez, from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Edelskin; for Naples, from Kobe, Mr. A. Makin; for Genoa, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Nissen, Drs. Wagenpiehr and Lang, Lieut. Mente; from Kobe, Mr. E. Beyer; from Shanghai, Dr. Borgmann, Messrs. Dynhorn, Locksmith, Hoppeler, T. Hobbart, Vogt, Leux and Deutsch; for Antwerp, from Yokohama, Messrs. C. Herfwith, A. Weyland, C. Schmidt, H. Palm, C. Mallett and C. Depanid; for Bremen, from Yokohama, Mr. Riedemann; from Shanghai, Messrs. Kotze, O. Fabricius, Wolfgang and Kultzen; for London, from Shanghai, Mrs. Way, Miss Moore and Mr. Henderson.

Per *Bingo Maru*, from Moji, Mr. and Mrs. Warker, Mr. and Mrs. Birch and two children, Rev. Dr. Ewing and Mr. A. C. Teamura.

Per *Canton*, from London, &c., Major Bryan and Lieut. Dickson.

DEPARTED.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila, Mrs. M. A. Juvett, Capt. D. C. Shanks, Messrs. F. B. Ingersoll, S. Bran, W. Anares and S. Babcock.

Per *Hakata Maru*, for Japan, Mrs. Bendleok and daughter, Messrs. T. Kenderdine, Persch, B. Thompson, A. Pfennigsdorf, G. Sachse, N. Takata, T. Konishi, and Mrs. K. Tatsumoto.

Per *Massilia*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Chief Inspectors Black and McNamara; for Colombo, Hon. Lieut. Hendley; for Bombay, Mrs. K. Edulji and two children and Mr. D. H. Vasunia; for London, Foreman and Mrs. Williams and two children, Sergt. and Mrs. M. Doolan and two children, Sergt. and Mrs. G. Moreland and four children, Mrs. Williams and four children, Sergt. and Mrs. Smith and two children, Capt. Berger, H.K.R., Messrs. H. A. Ottewill and John Carroll; from Shanghai, for Bombay, Messrs. M. Miyabhoj and A. A. Nasari Walla; for London, Rev. Thomas Protheroe, Capt. J. W. Stewart, Lieut. W. N. Hay, Messrs. G. Fisher and H. E. Charlesworth.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Mrs. and Miss Powell, Mrs. Hilbert and child, Mr. and Mrs. K. Bottorff and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace, Misses Mary Perez, L. Marquand, Hook, and M. White, Dr. J. Sanger, Messrs. B. Barbosh, A. S. Foster, C. H. Ames, R. Harper, L. Maynard, Sam. McCurdy, S. S. Milligan and E. B. Howitz.

Per *Peru*, for Shanghai, Messrs. Frank Howard, J. S. Hagen, and A. Rodriguez; for Kobe, Mr. C. F. Bilbrough; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hansen and child, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. U. Owen, Miss E. A. Eakin, Miss Lillian Hansen, Messrs. J. Burnstine and S. H. Ingram; for Portland (Or.), Mr. Frank Wilder; for Paris, Mr. G. H. Volpicelli.

Per *Kaga Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Messrs. C. S. Joscelyn, M. Thomson, J. J. Connel, W. Puroher and H. Howard.

Per *Athenian*, for Shanghai, Messrs. A. Babington and D. E. Brown; for Boston, Ensigns J. Halligan and W. P. Cronan, U.S.N.; for London, Mr. D. W. Salter.

Per *Preussen*, for Shanghai, Misses Koch, Miles and Connor, Messrs. A. Gregor, H. A. Siebs and F. Hoffert; for Nagasaki, Mrs. E. Gidley, Mrs. F. Gidley, Messrs. K. Oldorp, H. A. Seth and S. W. Gidley; for Kobe, Mr. F. R. Smith; for Yokohama, Capt. P. Delp, Messrs. G. P. Lammert, C. Hoppenberg, L. Wieting, F. Wilding, Tietz and A. Oehlenschlaeger.

Per *Perla*, for Manila, Mrs. T. H. Mead and child, Mrs. Barton, Mrs. V. Weissmann, Messrs. F. H. Ilse, F. C. Pollitz, W. O. McIntyre and W. R. Reber.

Per *Prinzess Irene*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Rev. and Mrs. Price and children, Rev. J. Smith, Misses E. Mell and Stookwell, Messrs. Sturm, A. E. Magell and C. Hoemidorp; for Genoa, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Consul-General B. C. G. Scott and Mr. A. Knoch; for Southampton, Mrs. Hanson, Messrs. J. Anderson and H. Talbot; for London, Mrs. F. H. May and children, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Dixon and children, Messrs. E. Cook, J. M. Crop, E. Bruce, J. McLearn, D. Cedi, S. Anderson, E. Capaline and W. Harcourt; for Bremen, Mrs. Calender and children, Capt. Krebs and Mr. C. Sasse.

Per *Bingo Maru*, for London, &c., Mr. and Mrs. C. Birch and two children, Messrs. F. M. Peplow, E. Haukey, J. A. McKechnie, C. McGuillan, W. F. Provan, A. C. Johnston, G. J. Bagg and Rev. Dr. Ewing, Comdr. M. Oshima, Capt. T. Kichara, Dr. J. Otori, Dr. T. Kimura, Dr. I. Kikuchi, Lieut. Y. Yamashita, Chief Engr. S. Ikeda, Petty Officer M. Iyedanka, Mr. and Mrs. R. Warake, Miss F. Okada, Messrs. K. Kawamura and P. C. Giamura.

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